

Shultz arrives in Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz arrived here Saturday to spend the weekend relaxing before continuing his Latin America tour Monday. Shultz arrived from Brasilia, the modern inland capital about 1,200 kilometres southwest of Rio, where he met Friday with Brazilian President Jose Sarney and high officials. In Rio he also had lunch with private businessmen Saturday with no access to the press and would spend the weekend relaxing. Rio, on the southeast Atlantic coast, is Brazil's tourist centre. Shultz will continue Monday his 10-day, nine-country tour. He will go to Bolivia first and then to Costa Rica, Honduras and El Salvador. On Wednesday he will attend the inauguration of Ecuador's new President Rodrigo Borja. In Brazil the secretary got unexpected support on the U.S. stand towards Nicaragua. Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto de Abreu Sodre told Shultz Friday that Nicaragua was "out of line" and must "return to the democratic path." Sodre said his remarks were "personal" but the statement was still considered unusually strong for Brazil, which traditionally has advocated non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

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AROUND THE WORLD...

Baker resigns, Brady named successor

WASHINGTON (AP) — Treasury Secretary James Baker resigned Friday to take command of old friend George Bush's presidential campaign. President Ronald Reagan then named Nicholas F. Brady to the cabinet post for the final months of his administration, which will end Jan. 21. "You've been a secret of our success. Now Jim, go do it for George," Reagan said in a televised announcement from the White House with the old treasury secretary and the new one by his side. "I'm pleased that I've been able to nominate such an able successor... I cannot imagine anyone more qualified," the president said of Brady. Brady is co-chairman of Dillon, Read and Co., a New York investment banking house. His appointment as treasury secretary is subject to confirmation by two-thirds of the 100-member Senate.

IRA claims responsibility for bombing

BELFAST (R) — The Irish Republican Army (IRA) said Saturday it planted a bomb that injured four people at a British army base in West Germany Friday. The explosion at Roy barracks in the Dueseldorf district of Ratingen came at the end of one of the bloodiest weeks of violence in Northern Ireland this year. Three British soldiers and a West German woman were hurt in the blast. The IRA also killed a British soldier in a bomb blast in a London barracks Monday, and five people have been killed in IRA attacks in the province in the past week. "The Irish Republican Army claims responsibility for the bomb attack on the Roy barracks," the group said in a statement issued in Belfast.

Italy to help Sudan fight floods

ROME (R) — Italy said Saturday it would send urgent aid to Sudan to help the country tackle disastrous floods and storms that had particularly hit refugee camps around Khartoum and the border with Ethiopia. "Italy intends to give a positive reply to the Sudanese government's request for urgent humanitarian aid, following the floods and bad weather which have been devastating the country for several weeks," a Foreign Ministry statement said. The ministry said Christian Democratic Senator Gilberto Bonalumi, an under-secretary at the ministry, would travel to Khartoum next week to discuss the situation.

India reports shoot-out with Pakistan

SRINAGAR (R) — Indian Defence Minister K.C. Pant said Saturday that Indian troops recently repulsed a Pakistani attack on Indian positions guarding a strategic glacier high in the Himalayas. He told a news conference the alleged attack occurred on the Siachen Glacier in the last week in July, but that the problem was quickly defused by commanders from both sides who met to talk it over. Pant said there were no casualties in the latest of many exchanges of fire by troops on the glacier, which controls routes into India. He also said there were frequent exchanges of fire with Pakistani troops along the border between the two countries in Kashmir.

Pakistan reports downing Afghan plane

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan shot down an Afghan fighter-bomber which was violating its airspace Thursday state-run Pakistan Television reported Saturday. It quoted a Defence Ministry spokesman as saying the wreckage of the plane had been found inside Pakistani territory. It said the Afghan aircraft penetrated 16 kilometres into the country before being intercepted by a Pakistani air force F-16 fighter which shot it down. The television said nothing about the fate of the Afghan plane's pilot.

Egypt revives plan to deepen Suez

CAIRO (R) — The World Bank and the Arab Fund for Economic Development have agreed to finance a \$2 million feasibility study for a project to deepen and widen the Suez Canal, a canal authority spokesman said Saturday. He told Reuters the study to expand the waterway to handle ships with a draught of up to 67 feet, compared with the present 53 feet, had not yet been commissioned. He declined to give an estimate of total costs. The proposed project, the second phase of a two-stage scheme, would increase the size of vessels able to transit the canal fully laden from 150,000 to 260,000 deadweight tonnes. Canal Authority Chairman Ezzat Adel has said supertankers of more than 300,000 tonnes can now sail through the 195-kilometre canal in ballast.

At least 38 killed in Indian ferry mishap

NEW DELHI (AP) — A passenger ship carrying at least 300 Hindu pilgrims capsized Saturday in the Ganges River in eastern India, and 38 people were reported killed and hundreds missing. Accounts issued by the police and Indian news agencies differed on how many people were aboard and how many were killed, missing or rescued. J.M. Qureshi, director general of police, told reporters in Patna, the capital of Bihar state, that the privately owned, steam-powered launch was carrying 300 pilgrims when it capsized in the rain-swollen river. He said 100 people were rescued and that divers were looking for bodies and survivors. United News of India (UNI) said the launch was carrying 500 passengers. 38 bodies were recovered and 50 people went to safety. It said the remaining 412 people were missing and presumed drowned. Another news agency, the Press Trust of India, said at least 400 passengers were feared drowned.

1 killed in Paris train accident

PARIS (AP) — A passenger train slammed into a terminal barrier in Paris' Gare de l'Est railway station Saturday, killing one person and injuring more than 50, rescue officials said. Several of the injured were trapped in the wreckage for up to 2½ hours in the second serious rail accident in Paris in six weeks. The train, arriving in the Gare de l'Est from Chateau Thierry, 100 kilometres northeast of Paris, hit the retaining barrier at the end of the line about 1:10 p.m. (1210 GMT), officials said. The first wagon of the four-car train smashed up on the terminal buffer, crumpling its front half. All of the seriously injured were in the first car. The other three cars and the engine, in the rear, did not leave the rails and appeared to suffer no major damage. A final casualty count given by fire department spokesman Raoul Vigier was one dead, nine seriously injured and 48 who suffered minor injuries. Seven people were trapped in the wreckage. The last was pulled out and sent to the hospital about 3:45 p.m. (1445 GMT).

Pakistan rejects Soviet charges

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan returned from Moscow Saturday and said he rejected charges his country had violated Afghan accords and told Soviet officials pressure "would solve nothing." He told reporters he hoped the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan would continue as scheduled under the April 14 accords signed in Geneva. Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, in a meeting with Yaqub Khan Wednesday, called Pakistani support for Afghan rebels "international terrorism." He warned that Moscow and Kabul would find ways to counter it (see related story on page 8).

Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs abolished; Dudin succeeds Ureikat

Cabinet undergoes limited reshuffle

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A limited cabinet reshuffle was announced by the government Saturday, abolishing the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs, dividing the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and separating the Ministry of Supply from the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

The abolition of the Ministry of Occupied Territories came in line with the Kingdom's decision to sever legal and administrative ties

Royal decrees were issued Saturday accepting the resignation on health grounds of Rashid Ureikat as minister of labour and social development. While Marwan Dudin, who served as minister of occupied territories affairs, was named the new labour minister, Dr. Fawaz Toukan was appointed minister of social development.

Abdul Salam Kanaan will head the Ministry of Supply, which was originally part of the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply headed by Hamdi Tabbaa.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai was quoted as saying by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs was turned into a "Department of Palestinian Affairs" affiliated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs under the jurisdiction of Foreign Minister Tabar Al Masri.

Dr. Toukan was sworn in before His Majesty King Hussein Saturday. Kanaan, who is currently out of the country, will take the oath Sunday. Dudin will not have to take the oath since he is already a sworn-in minister of Rifai's cabinet.

This is the fourth cabinet



Fawaz Thoukan



Abdul Salam Kanaan

(Continued on page 5)

Dudin: New department will perform bulk of abolished ministry's work

By Salameh Ne'matt
Jordan Times
Economics Correspondent

AMMAN — Marwan Dudin, who was appointed minister of labour after a Royal Decree abolished the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs Saturday, said the newly-created Department of Palestinian Affairs would take over the bulk of the abolished ministry's work.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Dudin explained that the now-abandoned development plan for the occupied territories constituted only 15 per cent of the volume of the ministry's work and that 85 per cent of the ministry's functions would be carried out by the new department to be linked to the Foreign Ministry.

Dudin said the government had no intention to dismantle all the economic and legal infrastructure

in the occupied West Bank.

"What we are doing is to dissolve whatever looked like an institutionalised relationship" with the West Bank, Dudin said in the interview. He explained that Jordan was looking into "all possible venues towards translating our political will into a clear situation."

Holiday announced

AMMAN (J.T.) — All government departments and public institutions will be closed Thursday Aug. 11, to mark the anniversary of His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the throne, according to a statement issued by the Prime Ministry Saturday.

Iraq drops demand for direct talks before truce

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said Saturday that Iraq was willing to cease fire in the Gulf war provided Iran announced its willingness to enter into direct talks "immediately" after the truce.

The announcement indicated Iraq was dropping its demand that Iran enter into face-to-face talks in advance of a ceasefire, removing the largest remaining stumbling block to a United Nations call for a truce in the war.

"I declare that we are ready now to cease fire, on condition that Iran agrees to enter direct talks to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 598 immediately after a ceasefire takes effect," Hussein said.

The president, whose statement was read by an announcer on national television, also said he was extending "a hand of friendship and tolerance" to Iran.

Tehran Radio reported two hours later that Iraq has "withdrawn its precondition for negotiations with Iran in order to agree to a ceasefire."



Saddam Hussein

announced that it would only accept direct talks after the ceasefire, within the framework of Resolution 598, and when it was necessary."

Other than its brief, factual report the state-run radio carried no official government reaction.

President Hussein said direct talks would cover "the implementation of other items of Resolution 598, starting from the withdrawal (of forces to internationally-agreed boundaries)... to all other items of the resolution."

"If Iran refuses to accept entering into direct negotiations as a positive response to our initia-

tive, a clear response to be formally sent to us by the Security Council or secretary general, it will prove to the world and the Iranian people that it is responsible for further bloodshed and rejection of peace," he said.

"If they announce their readiness to accept our initiative and clearly and formally agree to direct negotiations to implement all the operative items of Resolution 598, we, our great people, our nation and the armed forces will be even happier after having enjoyed the happiness of victory."

A U.N. team of military experts has visited both Iran and Iraq to work out the mechanics of a truce, including the formation of an international truce monitoring unit expected to number about 250 people.

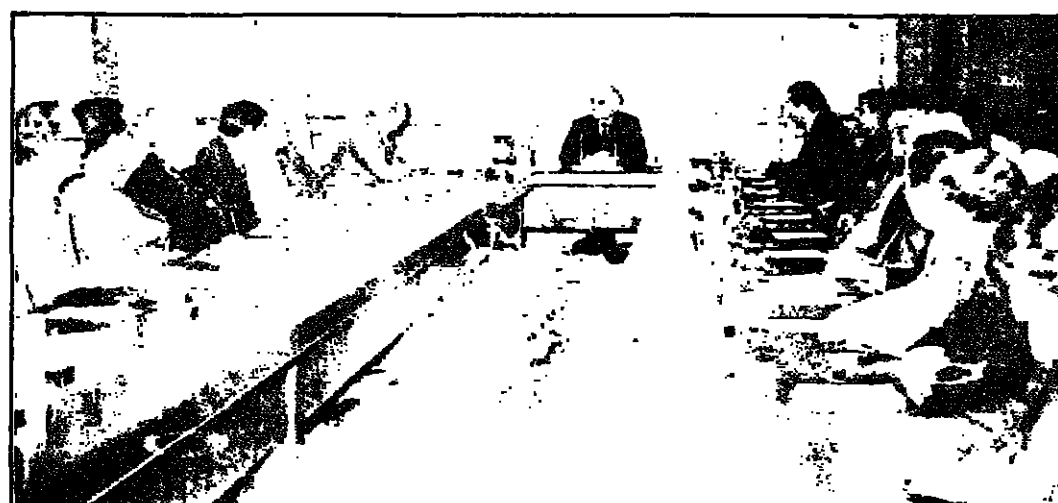
Hussein said Iraq would accept what it agreed with the team on stationing international troops between Iraqi and Iranian forces until "a durable and comprehensive peace is realised under the auspices of the secretary general."

He repeated Iraq's demand to use the Shatt Al Arab waterway, which divides the two countries in the south, according to its inalienable rights "and to use the Arab

(Continued on page 5)

Lukman, sees non-OPEC accord

LAGOS (R) — OPEC President Rilwanu Lukman has said non-OPEC oil producers are still willing to reach an output curb to stabilise the oil market. "There is strong indication from non-OPEC to reach an agreement with OPEC over production," Lukman, the Nigerian oil minister, said Friday night when he returned from price talks this week in Lausanne, Switzerland. In April OPEC met non-OPEC producers in Vienna but did not agree to a proposal from the non-members for a joint production cutback. Lukman said contacts with non-OPEC producers had been maintained and he was hopeful there would be an agreement on output restraint. The OPEC secretariat said Friday the group's Secretary-General Subroto would meet non-OPEC Mexico and Colombia during a tour of Latin America next week. Lukman said there was no way of checking non-OPEC output but this could be worked out. "We have to sit down and discuss that. But there is strong indication that there will be positive response (from non-OPEC)," he said. Lukman said crude oil prices, now more than \$4 below OPEC's set target of \$18 a barrel because of surplus, would stabilise near the group's target within the next six months.



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday chairs a meeting of the Council of Ministers (Petra photo)

Al Hussein: Decision painful but serves Palestinian cause

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday described his decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the occupied West Bank as painful but said it was taken in the context of allowing the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to assume more responsibilities in the occupied territories and fulfill its role as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The King, who was chairing a session of the Council of Ministers, said all efforts exerted by Jordan were aimed at "serving the Palestinian cause and ending the nightmare of occupation and securing just and comprehensive peace."

The King outlined the circumstances which led to adopting the latest measures and pointed out that the Jordanian moves were met with positive Palestinian reaction and Arab and international understanding.

The King said these measures "brought back the Palestinian problem to the prominence it deserves in world attention and enhanced the role of the PLO as an essential element in solving of the Palestinian problem... an issue which Jordan has always insisted upon."

The King reaffirmed Jordan's support for the Palestinian people's right to their homeland and pledged that Jordan would continue the support "since it is the destiny of Jordan."

The King reviewed "plots aimed at influencing world opinion and creating an atmosphere of conflict which diverts attention from the aspiration and struggle of the Palestinian people to establish their Palestine."

(Continued on page 5)

King thanks Iraq for gift of military equipment

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein thanked Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Saturday for providing Jordan with weapons and military equipment, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

The thanks were expressed in a letter the King sent to Armed Forces Commander in Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

"It pleases me to share the happiness of the Jordanian Armed Forces over this valuable gift from the brave Iraqi Armed Forces who had captured them from the Iranian forces during

battles waged in defence of the Arab Homeland," the King said in his letter.

"On behalf of the Jordanian Armed Forces, I hereby thank Iraqi President Saddam Hussein for this gift, which is a national gesture that enhances our confidence in the Arab Order and our ability to achieve victory through sacrifice, preparedness and perseverance," the King said.

"In your name, I send my greetings to the Iraqi Armed Forces, congratulating them on their achievements and their heroic struggle which are a source of pride for all Arabs," the King

said. "This gift of military hardware cannot be assessed by any material criteria since it embodies sublime meanings and high aspirations coming from heroes soaked with the blood of martyrs."

King Hussein later visited the Armed Forces main workshops and met with army commanders and senior officers in charge of maintenance work.

The King, who was accompanied by Field Marshal Sharif Zaid, inspected equipment and weapons received from the Iraqi Armed Forces.

Arab protests greet Murphy

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Widespread protests erupted in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Saturday on the eve of the arrival of U.S. special envoy Richard Murphy.

The protests followed a call by underground leaders of Palestinians to "greet Murphy with demonstrations and clashes with the forces of the occupation."

Troops wounded three Palestinians hours before Murphy's arrival, and a 15-year-old boy died after being shot Friday.

Arab reports, the army and Israel Radio said.

Murphy arrived in Tel Aviv from Damascus after talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and senior officials (see story below). He is expected to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres Sunday. One of the major topics for discussion is expected to be Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank.

Murphy will also report on his recent meeting with Vladimir

Polyakov, a senior Soviet official in charge of the Middle East.

Murphy is not scheduled to meet with Palestinians in the occupied territories after leaders of the eight-month-old uprising declared a boycott on the envoy.

"The visit of... Murphy to the area is nothing but an effort to breathe life into the (U.S. Secretary of State George) Shultz plan after the uprising had dealt it a mortal blow," they wrote in the latest leaflet. The leaflet called for a general strike to protest Murphy's visit.

Assad, Murphy discuss Lebanese elections, Mideast peace prospects

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad conferred Saturday with U.S. envoy Richard Murphy on Middle East peace prospects and the upcoming elections in Lebanon.

Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa and the American ambassador in Syria, William Eagleton, also attended the meeting.

Informed sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, told the AP the Lebanese presidential elections were the main focus of the talks. Earlier, Vice-President Abdul-Halim Khaddam and Murphy discussed the security steps needed to ensure that the Lebanese parliament elects a new national president.

Murphy is the assistant U.S. secretary of state in charge of Middle East affairs.

President Amin Gemayel's six-year-term expires Sept. 23. Parliament must elect a successor at least a week before his term ends.

Murphy, who flew to Damascus after an unscheduled visit to Lebanon, said in Beirut Thursday he was optimistic the election

would be held peacefully.

Political sources in Beirut told Reuters he presented Lebanese leaders with a list of six possible contenders regarded as acceptable to both Muslims and Christians.

The sources said Murphy's talks in Syria were expected to narrow this list further.

Strict security will be in force for the vote, for which no date has been set.

Arab diplomats in Damascus said the Syrians were asserting that the choice of a candidate was a purely Lebanese affair and Damascus would support the man representing the aspirations of the people.

Damascus radio warned in a commentary Saturday afternoon that the new president would be for all the Lebanese. "He will certainly be not for one party of one faction in Lebanon... he cannot be sectarian or a partisan of one single faction whatever his colour or his belief may be," it said.

The United States and Syria

have been trying to bring Lebanon's warring factions to agree on political reforms that would end the country's 13-year-old civil war.

Later Saturday, Murphy was scheduled to go to Israel. After talks there he is due to visit Jordan and Egypt, where he is to meet with a Palestinian delegation.

The semi-official Syrian newspaper Al Thawra accused Israel, Washington's major ally in the Middle East, Saturday of trying to sabotage the election and destabilise Lebanon.

It said in an editorial that Israel was seeking to undermine the Lebanese people's efforts to prepare for the election, on which they pinned great hopes.

"As the Lebanese people intensified their efforts to choose a president... Israel began to sabotage these efforts by escalating tension and launching savage military attacks against southern Lebanon and bombing the cities and villages," it said.

A petit French city in Amman

By Nermene Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Many non-Arab embassies in Jordan, offer more than political communication links between their country and the Jordanian government. They offer cultural services, language courses and activities which portray and explain their culture to the Jordanian public.

One of the most successful cultural centres in Jordan is the French Cultural Centre located in Jabal Al Waidbedh. In its language department alone, the centre provides more than 1,200 students a year with French language courses at all levels.

Philippe Corbet, a French teacher at the centre said, "We offer seven levels of French learning to those interested and several high level courses."

The twenty-year-old centre offers language courses to a minimum of 400 students per trimester. In the summer months the centre offers intensive language courses to those interested.

Corbet told the Jordan Times



A scene from one of the many films that are shown at the French Cultural Centre

the centre's courses do take into account most students' problems with French grammar.

"We follow the audio-visual method in teaching the French language until our students feel comfortable with using the language," Corbet said.

The rules of grammar are taught to students "only after this initial step is completed," he explained.

The atmosphere in the centre is conducive to learning French with minimum difficulties.

"There are many French films available; everything in the centre is written in French; we speak the language with each other throughout our time at the centre ... It is a little French city ... a French atmosphere," he said.

In answer to a question about the common difficulties faced by students Corbet said, "there are no common problems, it is a matter of personal abilities."

But, he pointed out that it is definitely more difficult for the French to learn Arabic than the other way around.

Although Corbet maintains that most of the students at the centre are adults, he said, "there are French language courses for children during the summer months."

Courses offered by the centre are not only French language courses.

Corbet said, "the centre offers banking courses in French and Arabic courses for French native speakers."

The centre has a French book and a music and film library "which are available to students and members free of charge," Corbet said.

The centre's other activities include showings of the latest French films, also free of charge, and sponsoring lectures and art shows.

Theatre by the people, for the people

The Palestinian theatre troupe Sanabel is one of only two full-time theatre troupes on the West Bank, the other being the well-established El Hakawati, who pioneered the project for a permanent theatre complex in Jerusalem.

Sanabel was established at the end of 1984 by a group of actors who were well experienced in theatre on the West Bank, where groups have been forming and reforming since the 1970s. Sanabel's approach is that of committed theatre, which tackles the actual political, social and economic problems of the people for whom it performs.

In fact, Sanabel's play, "Waiting for the Dawn" was held up at the censor's office for several weeks after its first three performances in October 1987, and

was only released after a legal battle. The play, which was inspired by the work of a South African author, was written by the actors themselves, and involved field research in different parts of the West Bank and Gaza in order to bring the people's problems to light.

The message of "Waiting for the Dawn" is simple, and is summarised by the lines of the opening song: "There's a wall inside and a wall outside; Don't just sit and wait for dawn; Light a candle with your own two hands; Let your own eyes be the light."

Sanabel's other plays have included "Dogs and Numbers," produced in 1986. Based on two plays by the Syrian playwright Saadallah Wannous, "Dogs" had as its motto, "Those who sleep today will never awaken."

An earlier play, "Mr. General, Sir," was based on three plays by Lebanese, Egyptian and Iranian playwrights, and tackled the subject of dictatorship in the Third World. Other plays like "The Festival" were written by the troupe's lead actor and director Ahmad Abu Saloum.

Outreach theatre

In addition to staging its own works and the works of others, Sanabel has taken part in variety shows and sketches for several cultural and social institutions throughout the West Bank. The music for most of their plays is provided by the popular Sabrin, which has made its mark in marrying Western techniques and Arab rhythms.

Critics agree that Sanabel's performances have improved

greatly over the years, in terms of acting, directing and decor. But the troupe faced a serious problem in trying to reach out to the public. Apart from facilities on offer at the Nuzha-El Hakawati theatre in Jerusalem, suitable outlets do not exist.

Sanabel was frequently invited to perform in other towns and villages, but the lack of basic facilities like lighting and sound equipment meant it was difficult to take up the invitation. Sanabel often found themselves performing on makeshift stages in courtyards, with the resulting loss in quality.

Recently, the troupe has found the funds to purchase sound and lighting equipment, which will certainly increase their mobility and outreach programmes, other factors permitting. Tanniya.

Jordan to boost tourist services at Mount Nebo

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Tourism plans to boost tourist services at the Mount Nebo archaeological site west of Madaba by establishing a resthouse and providing the area with water and electricity, according to a Ministry of Tourism official.

He said a team of archaeologists led by Father Michele Piccirillo from the Franciscan Order is continuing excavations at the site, which overlooks the Dead Sea and the Jordan Valley.

Father Piccirillo, who leads a team of 30 engineers, highly skilled specialists and archaeologists, has already created a model resthouse within the archaeological

compound; and now awaits an offer from a recognised tourist organisation or hotel to take over the task.

The official spoke following a tour of Mount Nebo with the Minister of Tourism Zuhair Ajlouni, who discussed with Father Piccirillo excavation progress, means of protecting the historical site and ways to provide facilities for visitors.

Father Piccirillo, whose work centres around mosaic-rich Byzantine churches and their surrounding antiquities, has published a number of articles about the site, further promoting the Kingdom's tourist industry.

University of Jordan studies water in dams

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Water Research and Study Centre at the University of Jordan is involved in a study of water stored in reservoirs behind dams in Jordan to define their nature and quality and determine the prospects of use for domestic, agricultural or industrial purposes.

The study revealed that water stored behind the Wadi Al Arab, Wadi Zilghab, Wadi Shueib, Kafra and King Talal dams is constantly exposed to pollutants, which greatly reduce the prospect of utilisation.

According to a report in Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily, the study

also reveals the presence of bilharzia snails in the reservoirs, a serious source of bilharzia disease.

Apart from the bilharzia danger, the paper said the study reveals that all surface water in Jordan is exposed to chemical and biological reactions because it is open to all forms of pollutants.

The University of Jordan, where the centre is based, has offered JD 27,000 to cover part of the cost of a three-year research project, while the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) plans to provide JD 60,800.

Damascus meeting to discuss uprising

DAMASCUS (Petra, J.T.) — Jordan will take part in a meeting of Arab countries hosting Palestinian refugees, which is due to open in Damascus next week, to discuss developments in the Palestine problem.

The delegates from Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Palestine will discuss the current uprising in the occupied Arab territories and

means of helping the Palestinian people regain their rights and freedom.

The meeting, which the Arab League general secretariat and the Arab League Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation will take part in, is expected to discuss the general conditions of Palestinians in Arab countries especially inside the occupied

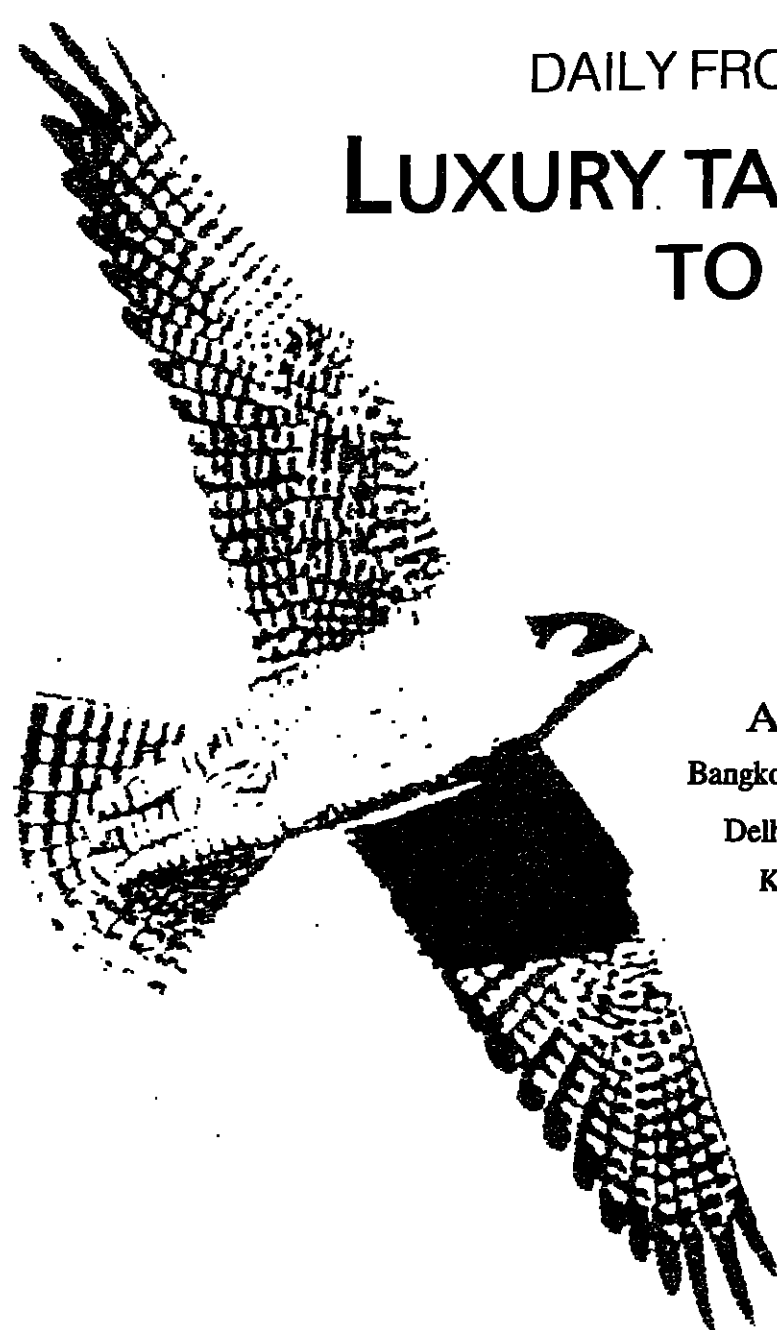
lands. The delegates will discuss a report submitted to the UN General Assembly by the General Commissioner of UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency) covering the health, social and educational conditions of refugees.

Jordan's two member delegation to the meeting will be led by

Mr. Ahmad Qatanani, former secretary general of the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs.

The last meeting by countries hosting Palestinian refugees was held in Tunis in January. The delegates discussed providing assistance to the Palestinians in the occupied lands and improving the living conditions of refugee camp residents.

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16:25 Cartoons and children programmes
17:00 Sports
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Local programme
18:25 The world of prairies
18:50 Series: ALF
19:10 Local programme
19:45 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:40 Arabic series
21:30 Local programme
22:10 Varieties programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Varieties programme (cont.)

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07:00 Morning Show
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
09:00 News Summary
10:00 In Concert
11:05 News Summary
12:05 News Summary
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session cont.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Science Report
15:00 News Summary
16:00 News Summary
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Listener's Choice
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Raydon and Blues
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show continued
21:55 News Summary

WORLDNET

(At the American Cultural Centre)
08:00 America Today
11:00 Newsline
12:00 Hour USA
13:00 America Today
14:00 The Forum Presents
14:30 Adam Smith's Money World
15:00 World Dialogue: Reform and Improvement in American Education
16:00 Worldnet Dialogue: Use and Distribution of Drugs
17:00 Satellite File No. 269 (English)
17:00 Satellite File No. 269 (French)

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07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 English Songsmiths 07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial Review 08:00 World News 08:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 08:30 Personal View 08:45 The World Today 09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Meridian 10:00 World News 10:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 10:30 From the Weeklies 10:45 Network UK 11:00 World News 11:09 Reflections 11:15 A Jolly Good Show 12:00 World News 12:09 British Press Review 12:15 The World Today 12:30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup 12:45 Personal View 13:00 News Summary followed by Here's Humphil 13:15 Letter from America 13:30 Feature 14:00 World News 14:09 News about Britain 14:15 The A-Z of Hollywood 14:30 Meridian 15:00 Newsdesk 15:15 Multitrack 3 15:45 Sports Roundup 16:00 World News 16:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 16:30 Network UK 16:45 Sportsroundup 16:50 From the Weeklies 16:59 World News 17:15 Sportsroundup 17:00 World News 17:09 Sportsroundup 17:15 The Ken Bruce Show 20:45 Sports Roundup 21:00 Newsdesk 21:30 From Concert followed by News Summary 22:30 Feature 23:00 World News 23:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 23:30 Meridian 24:00 News Summary followed by A Life at the UN 01:15 The Idea of Europe 01:40 World News 01:59 From Our Own Correspondent 02:25 Nature Notebook 02:40 Reflections 01:45 Sports Roundup 02:00 World News 02:09 Words 02:15 The Tony Mynn Request Show

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 720, 950, 1174, 11925 and 15210 Hz

07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10 VOA Morning 11:00 News 11:10 VOA Morning 12:00 News 12:10 VOA Morning 13:00 News 13:10 VOA Morning 14:00 News 14:10 VOA Morning 15:00 News 15:10 VOA Morning 16:00 News 16:10 VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 VOA Morning 18:00 News 18:10 VOA Morning 19:00 News 19:10 VOA Morning 20:00 News 20:10 VOA Morning 21:00 News 21:10 VOA Morning 22:00 News 22:10 VOA Morning 23:00 News 23:10 VOA Morning 24:00 News 24:10 VOA Morning

CULTURAL CENTRES & LIBRARIES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267
American Centre 644371
American Centre Library 645250
British Council 6361478
French Cultural Centre 637009
Goethe Institute 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Arts Centre 665105
Hussein Youth City 6671816
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Y.W.M.A. 664251
Abdul Munir Library 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library 843555
Foundation 672541
Amman Municipal Library 637111

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has

an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel 160). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphian Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphian Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261

PRAYER TIMES

04:21 Fajr
05:40 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:41 Dhuhr
16:23 'Asr
19:34 Maghrib
21:02 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic). Jabal Luweibdeh, Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Hussein, Tel. 661757, Sunday English mass (summer time 6 p.m., winter time 5 p.m.).
Terrasanta Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Luweibdeh, mass in Italian language, most every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox). Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer). Jabal Amman, Tel. 623383, chaplain's residence tel. 601359.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox). Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.
Amman International Church (Interdenominational). meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 677534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd). Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Smir 811295.
Rabbiow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church). Interdenominational-cum-ecumenical English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. tel. 822605, Rev. Veli.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon). Tel. 815-817, 821-264.

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Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox). Tel. 623541.
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OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:10 Berlin, Larnaca (BER)
11:25 Kuwait (KU)
11:40 Damascus (AZ)
12:30 Baghdad (IA)
13:20 Cairo (CAI)
13:30 Doha, Sharjah (GF)
13:45 Kuwait (LN)
16:00 Jeddah (SV)
17:35 Athens (OA)
18:00 Dubai (DXB)
19:25 Frankfurt (LH)
20:15 Beirut (ME)
01:00 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

11:15 Rome (add. J) (RJ)
11:45 Rome (RJ)
12:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:20 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:40 Istanbul (RJ)
13:00 Agaba, Cairo (RJ)
13:20 Kuwait (RJ)
13:40 Larnaca (RJ)
14:00 Cairo (RJ)
14:20 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
14:40 Jeddah, Sana'a (RJ)
15:00 Baghdad (RJ)
15:20 Damascus (RJ)
15:40 Bangkok (RJ)
16:00 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:20 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
06:30 Cairo, London (BA)
06:40 Damascus, Paris (AF)
06:50 Larnaca, Berlin (BER)
07:00 Kuwait (KU)
07:10 Rome (AZ)
07:20 Baghdad (IA)
07:30 Cairo (CAI)
07:40 Bahrain, Doha, Sharjah (GF)
07:50 Tripoli (LN)
08:00 Jeddah (SV)
08:10 Athens (OA)
08:20 Dubai (DXB)
08:30 Sana'a (LH)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

18:55 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:00 New York, Vienna (RJ)
19:30 London (RJ)
20:15 Rome (add. J) (RJ)
20:45 Rome (RJ)
02:10 Baghdad (IA)

THE WEATHER

The weather will be relatively warm and a rise in temperature is expected with northerly light to moderate winds. In Agaba, the winds will be northerly moderate and calm seas.

AMMAN

Min./max. temp. 21/24
Water and Sewerage 24/40
Deserts 22/37
Jordan Valley 24/40

YESTERDAY'S HIGH TEMPERATURES

Amman 32, Agaba 39. Humidity readings: Amman 23 per cent, Agaba 25 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

AMMAN:
Dr. Nabil Al Maridi 615338
Dr. Yahya Abdul Rahim 736047
Dr. Ahmad Uthman 786384
Dr. Mahmoud Al Awad 741391
Fire pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asena pharmacy 637055
Nairokh pharmacy 626372
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

TAXIS

Talal taxi 640031
Venice taxi 644584
Asfour taxi 625280
Tamer taxi 813581
Nabha taxi 663003
Holiday taxi 663100
Sayed taxi 604422
Middle East taxi 604615

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

10:15 Jeddah (RJ)
10:20 Larnaca (RJ)
10:35 Dhahran (RJ)
10:40 Kuwait (RJ)
10:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:15 Cairo, Agaba (RJ)
11:30 Los Angeles Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
11:40 Istanbul (RJ)
11:45 Paris (RJ)
11:50 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
12:45 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)

198, 891228
Blood Bank 778303
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 639141
Public Security Directorate 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information
(directory assistance) 12
Overseas Calls 17
Central Amman Telephone
Repairs 623101
Abdull Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power
Company 648411, 626381
RJ Flight Information 06-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 06-52000

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Nabil Al Maridi 615338
Dr. Yahya Abdul Rahim 736047
Dr. Ahmad Uthman 786384
Dr. Mahmoud Al Awad 741391
Fire pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asena pharmacy 637055
Nairokh pharmacy 626372
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

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11:30 Los Angeles Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
11:40 Istanbul (RJ)
11:45 Paris (RJ)
11:50 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
12:45 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Directorate 661111
Civil Defence Immediate
Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

198, 891228
Blood Bank 778303
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 639141
Public Security Directorate 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage
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Abdull Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power
Company 648411, 626381
RJ Flight Information 06-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 06-52000

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 81381332
Khalid Maatari, J. Amn 64428116
Al-Jalal Maternity, J. Amn

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GRADUATION: Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Saturday attended the graduation ceremony of the eighth batch of the Al Andalus College at the Palace of Culture in the Al Hussein Youth City. At the end of the ceremony, Princess Basma presented the graduates with certificates and prizes to the 200 graduates.

ENDORSEMENT: The cabinet Saturday endorsed the minutes of the meetings and resolutions of the joint supreme Jordanian-Syrian committee which convened in Damascus on July 2. The cabinet also endorsed the cooperation agreement between Jordan and North Yemen which deals with dispatching doctors and technicians to work in the health institutions in North Yemen in accordance with the recommendations of the joint supreme committee which convened in Janna'a in February.

FIRING AT WEDDINGS: Prime Minister Zaid Rifai has instructed Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani to give special concern to the question of firings at weddings which have resulted in the death and injury of innocent people. The prime minister asked the minister to give specific instructions to the Public Security Department to deal strictly with violators of the law and to impose all possible penalties in those who continue the process of firing at weddings.

ASSAD MEETS KUWAITI ENVOY: Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad met in his office Saturday with Kuwait's ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Al Baho. They reviewed bilateral cooperation in higher educational and the implementation of agreements signed by the two countries in this respect.

MINISTER OPENS COURSE: A training course for officials employed by the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment opened here Saturday. Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs Youssef Hamdan Al Jaber opened the course, which is being sponsored by the Yarmouk University for 35 officials, who will be oriented on theoretical and practical work related to modern management of government offices, and will attend a six-day training course in the use of computers at Yarmouk University.

TAFIEH HEALTH COURSE: A six-day training course for women involved in health work ended at Tafieh Saturday. Fifteen local women attended the course, which was organised by the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund.

NATIONAL GUIDEBOOK: The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage decided to issue a national guidebook containing the dates of seminars, conferences, public lectures and other cultural activities in the Kingdom. The guidebook, according to a ministry official, will also include the dates of workshops, training courses and other activities that are designed to orient the public on Jordanian life.

TENDERS FOR SCHOOL ANNEXES: Zarqa Governor Eid Al Qatameh has endorsed a number of tenders for building annexes to schools at the cost of JD 28,800.

HAI HASSAN MEETS 2 ENVOYS: Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan met separately in his office Saturday with the Swiss and South Korean ambassadors to Jordan. Haj Hassan Saturday received a message from North Yemeni Transportation Minister Ahmad Mohammad Al Anasi. The message expressed gratitude for the consultative duty the transportation corporation undertook with regard to training Yemeni manpower.

SALT-ZAY ROAD PROJECT: Salt municipality has awarded a JD 350,000 tender to a local contractor to build a road linking Salt with Zay summer resort and Al Arida road leading to the Jordan Valley. The three-kilometre road will be completed in two weeks.

New study to boost agricultural production

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government prepared a study to boost the agricultural sector's production in the Kingdom and provide measures enabling farmers to overcome losses and the consequences of natural disasters, according to a report in Al Dustour Arabic daily.

The paper said the study provides for subsidies to be paid to farmers when the prices of crops plunge below the minimum level. The government was also urged to charge farmers 80 per cent of profits made by selling their crops above a price ceiling.

Any amounts collected from farmers when selling crops at very high prices will be used by the Ministry of Agriculture in the form of subsidies to local producers, the paper noted.

The study, according to the paper, recommends that agents and go-betweens be excluded from the buying and selling operations, since they had been in the practice of charging large commissions from farmers for marketing their crops. It also proposes the establishment of a government-subsidised fund to offer soft loans to local farmers.

Centre opens for West Bank Tawjihi students

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — A centre opened in Amman Saturday to accept applications from West Bank Tawjihi students for Ministry of Education transcripts.

The ministry announced it will open centres in Amman, Zarqa, Irbid, Salt, Ma'an and Karak to receive such applications and provide transcripts required by students for enrolling in community colleges or universities here and abroad.

The ministry, which supervised

the Tawjihi examinations in both late last month, has set up a number of committees to endorse certificates and transcripts.

Applications for Jordanian universities are being processed by post offices around the country and some 21,000 students from those who passed this year's Tawjihi examinations could be admitted to community colleges and universities in Jordan, according to press reports.

Aqaba-Nweibeh route congestion

AQABA (J.T.) — The Aqaba-Nweibeh land-sea route witnessed congestion resulting from large numbers of passengers travelling to Egypt or Jordan in June, the beginning of the summer season.

However, thanks to new facilities introduced at the port, most of the problems have been overcome, according to a report in Al Dustour Arabic daily.

The report said 38,800 passengers and 5,886 vehicles were transported across the route via ferry boats in June, causing authorities to increase the normal number of trips between the two terminals.

The report quoted Aqaba Port officials as saying that additional trips transported 3,122 more passengers and 687 more cars to Aqaba and Nweibeh.



The Health Ministry director general Saturday inspects the premises of the Chest Disease Department at Jabal Amman (Petra photo)

Health Ministry official opens new premises for Chest Disease Section

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Health Saturday opened the new premises for the Chest Diseases Department at Jabal Hussein in Amman.

The new premises house units for examination of patients, X-ray units, laboratories, administration and the wings, a pharmacy and other facilities.

The new section has been supplied with modern equipment and

a powerful electronic microscope required for testing, according to Health Ministry officials.

They said that the Irbid Chest Diseases Centre will be supplied by a similar microscope.

According to the officials chest diseases centres, 10 of which exist in the Kingdom, deal mainly with tuberculosis, and the services are

offered free of charge.

The new premises were opened by the ministry's secretary general who represented Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh.

Officials said that the two storey building will offer six to nine month treatment courses after which most patients are 100 per cent cured.

Committee buys 10,125 tonnes of cereals from Karak farmers

KARAK (Petra, J.T.) — A government appointed committee in charge of purchasing locally produced cereals bought 10,125 tonnes of cereals from Karak farmers in the Karak Governorate, according to committee sources here.

The sources said the committee has now completed its task in the governorate and reported to the Ministry of Agriculture on the purchases operations.

The ministry appointed committees in Karak, Jweideh, Deir Alla and Irbid to purchase wheat,

barley lentils and chick peas from local farmers at subsidised prices.

The government is in the practice of purchasing cereals from farmers at prices above the international markets' rates in a bid to encourage them to boost output.

In the meantime, it was announced in Karak that the local cooperative organisation has made preparations to set up an agricultural exhibition on Aug. 15.

The exhibition will display samples of crops produced by farmers grouped according to

cooperative societies in the governorate. The exhibition is designed to orient the public on methods by which cooperatives are boosting production.

The Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO), which supervises these activities, plans to hold similar exhibitions in other parts of the Kingdom, according to JCO officials.

They said special committees have been set up to prepare for the exhibitions.

VTC opens two-week seminar for instructors

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) Saturday opened a two-week seminar for VTC instructors around the country.

programme of free vocational training to all able-bodied Jordanians seeking employment in the construction business, hotel management, sales, and ready-made clothing industries.

VTC Director General Dr. Burhan Shreideh, who opened the first session, said within its 1986-1990 five-year plan the VTC will expand its vocational training programmes by training no less than 30,000 people.

Participants in the two-week seminar will hear lectures and do practical work on managing training programmes at vocational training centres and preparing training courses for students.

The VTC meanwhile announced that the door was now open for training courses at its centres in different parts of the country, and said at least 3,400 trainees will be accepted within an organised apprenticeship programme this year.

apprentices will be 150 females to be absorbed by the vocational training centre for women in Marka.

Most of those to be recruited for the new courses will be students who completed the third preparatory stage at schools, but failed to pass the Ministry of Education's first secondary admission examinations in June.

The Ministry of Education Saturday announced the results of the admission examinations taken by 63,834 students of whom 53,945 passed and will be accepted in secondary schools.

According to Shreideh, registration for apprenticeship courses will begin Sunday.

A statement said training for employment in these sectors lasts between two and five months and offers the participants sufficient skills.

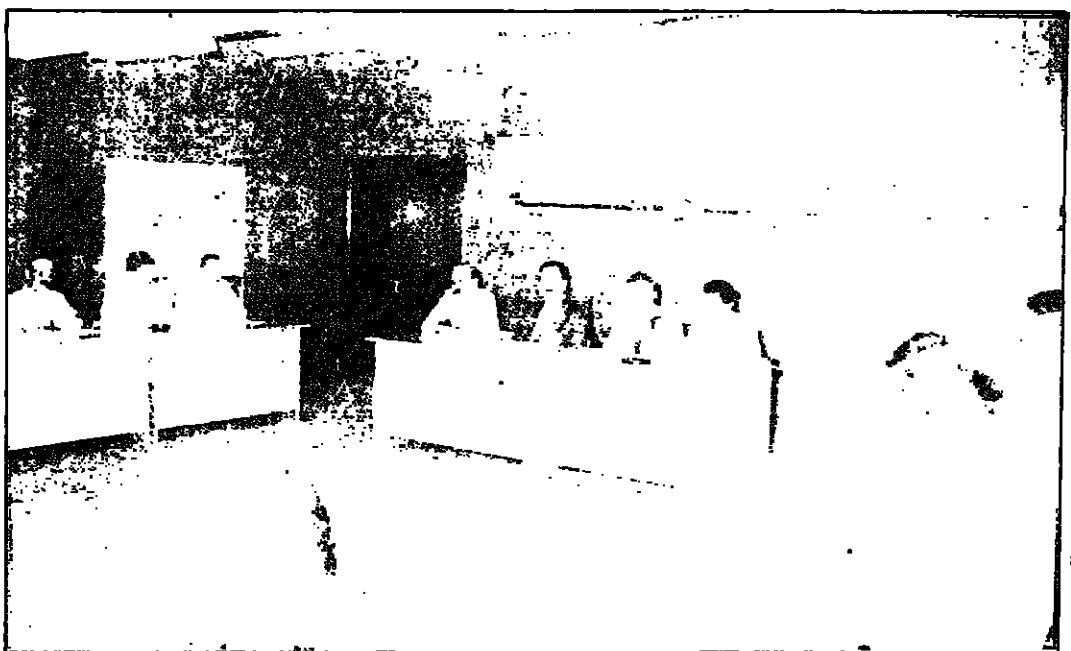
VTC training programmes are being offered through 10 major centres and several smaller ones in the Kingdom in cooperation with 2,200 businesses, companies and factories, the statement said.

In the past 10 years, the VTC offered training to 11,000 apprentices under a comprehensive programme for young men and women, according to the statement.

It said the VTC cooperates with institutions in the Jordanian private and public sector and has strong links with Arab and international organisations.

Shreideh said among the

On Thursday, the VTC announced it had embarked on a



The Vocational Training Corporation Director General Dr. Burhan Shreideh, opens a two-week seminar for instructors (Petra photo)

PSD buys three helicopters

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Public Security Department (PSD) purchased three police helicopters with special equipment to monitor and control road accidents.

The helicopters are expected to be delivered before the end of this year, PSD Director General Abdul Hadi Al Majali announced in a newspaper interview published Saturday.

The helicopters, which are fitted with special television cameras, will be operated by the PSD but maintained by the Royal Jordanian Air Force, Majali said in an interview with Al Dustour Arabic daily.

The helicopters will be helpful to the PSD in its endeavours to boost a comprehensive security programme around the country, Majali noted.

He said the new system, which involves the public in police work by enhancing the relationship between the public and the police, has proven successful.

The idea, Majali noted was the brainchild of a 1986 meeting of Arab police chiefs and was approved and encouraged by INTERPOL.

This year the PSD will complete the construction of 10 comprehensive security centres around the country. If all goes well, the centres in the plan will be complete in two years, Majali noted.

Referring to road accidents, he said the PSD compiles statistics by international standards, which count the number of dead or injured in road accidents for every 10,000 cars.

In highly advanced nations such as Sweden, the rate of death from road accidents stands at 5-10 per 10,000 cars; in a densely populated country such as India, it is 200 per 10,000 cars. In Jordan, the rate is 19 killed for every 10,000 cars, according to statistics between 1985 and 1987, Majali noted.

He said studies have shown that 95 per cent of the road accidents are due to human error, while only five per cent are due to the road conditions or problems with the vehicle.

Referring to prisons, he said they are now highly organised and offer inmates a variety of facilities, helping their rehabilitation.

"Shortly, the PSD will invite the press to tour a number of prisons such as the model one in Swaga to see and report on prison conditions, which are similar as

far as quality of service to those found in highly advanced nations," Majali said.

Last April, Majali reported that 18,125 crimes took place in Jordan in 1987, registering a drop of 7.4 per cent in general and a decline of 18.4 per cent in the number of felonies.

In reply to a question, Majali said the police in Jordan do not resort to beating detainees because beating often leads to adverse results. Those responsible for beating prisoners were said to be severely reprimanded.

In general, crime was said to be under control in the Kingdom. But, at least 15 per cent of the total number of crimes remains unaccounted for.

"However, this is a good ratio compared with other countries," the PSD chief noted.

Referring to smuggling, Majali said it is another issue no less important than the drug trafficking operations that have been going on in Jordan.

But, he said, smugglers have been carrying out their operations for trade rather than political reasons.

The PSD director announced in the interview that the PSD is currently studying the prospect of opening stores for the sale of arms and guns.

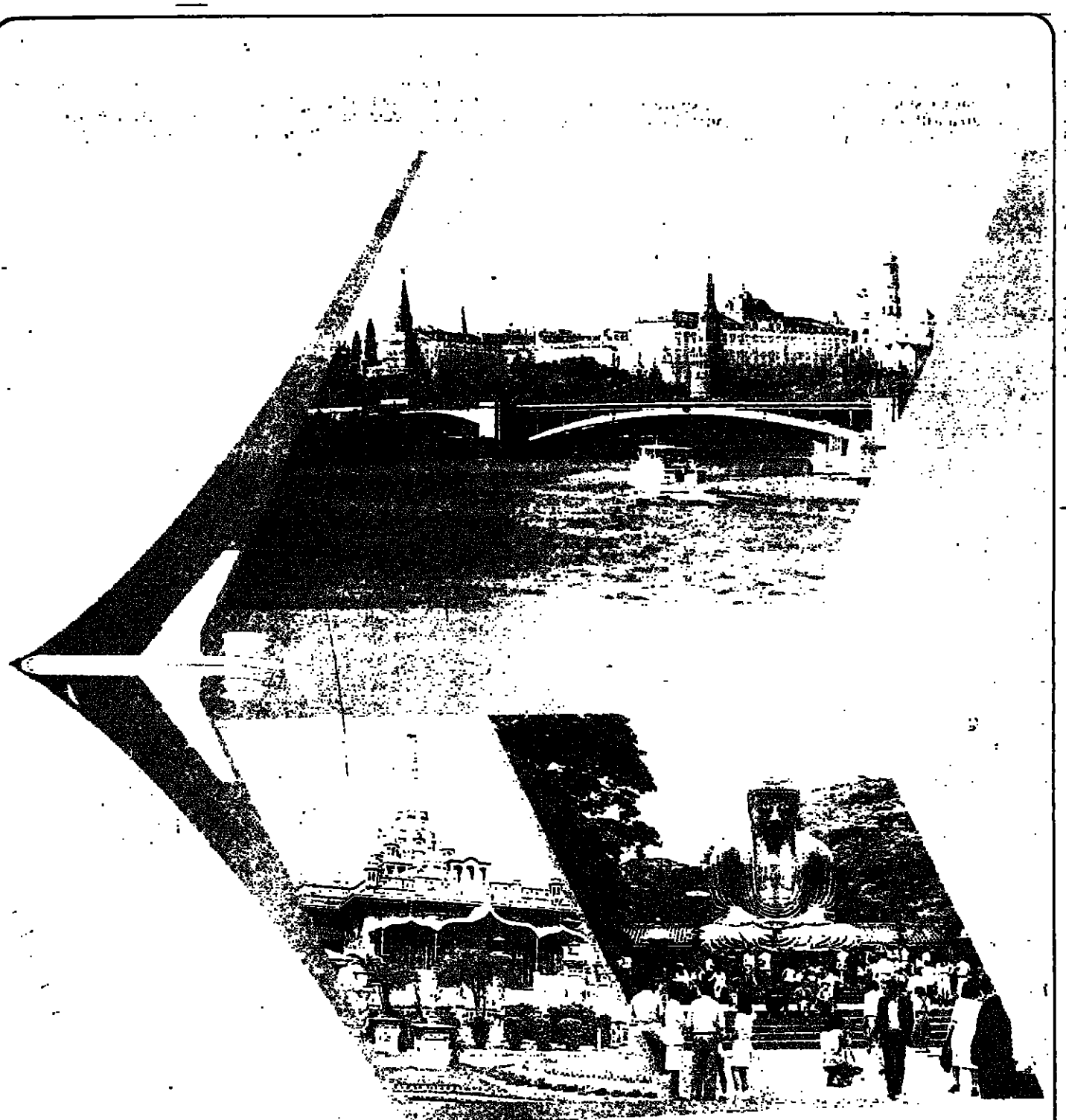
WAJ spends JD 1m on sewerage pipes in Karak

KARAK (Petra) — The Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) last year spent JD 1 million to lay 45 kilometres long sewerage pipes in Karak, and work is now underway for linking the network with Karak homes, according to WAJ department director here.

He said that the project also entailed building a wastewater treatment plant at the cost of JD 900,000 and an additional 330 metre-long pipe to drain away the waste water to the plant.

The WAJ official said that a water pipeline has been laid linking Ghor Al Safi with the tomato paste processing plant at the cost of JD 65,000.

He said water is now sufficient for all citizens in the Karak region.



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WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITIONS

- * Art exhibition by Khalid 'Attyyah at the Zarqa Club for the Deaf and Dumb.
- * Architectural exhibition at the Jordan National Museum of Fine Arts at 6:00 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

- * Art exhibition by Jaber Abdul Fattah Nashid at the Royal Cultural Centre.

FILMS

- * Feature film: Cross Creek. The American Centre at 7:00 p.m.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

الصحف الجردنية اليومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

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MAHMOUD AL KAYED

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Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Waiting for the PLO

DURING the past week, prominent personalities, writers, columnists and ordinary citizens have expressed regret over Jordan's decision to respond to Arab and PLO demands by severing ties with the West Bank. The dismay over the breaking of unity between the two banks of Jordan was genuinely expressed. This is only a natural reaction. People, any people, adapt to such changing circumstances slowly and cautiously. The decision was forced on Jordan and this was repeatedly made clear by Jordan. Almost all Palestinian and Arab political circles and media have welcomed the decision. Meanwhile, Jordanians and Palestinians on both sides of the River Jordan, who might be adversely affected by the decision, are waiting in apprehension that borders on fear.

Thousands of employees in the West Bank have already lost their jobs. At the moment, they are waiting for their new employer, hopefully the PLO. In fact, not only the West Bank inhabitants are waiting for the PLO, but so is everybody else. Jordan has been waiting for the PLO for some time now.

We do not want to patronise the PLO; we would only like to remind it that it is improper to keep people waiting, especially one's own.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Face the facts

BY Monday, the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories enters its ninth month and all indications point to the fact that the Palestinian people are continuing to step up their resistance activity against the occupation rule. Needless to say, the momentum of struggle against the Israelis and terrorism is a true expression of the Arab masses' determination to thwart the Israeli leadership's dreams and to attain freedom. The uprising has proven to the world that Israel is no longer in possession of the initiative in the Arab-Israeli conflict; and that sooner or later, the Israelis will have to face the facts and deal with realities. The uprising, which is now nearing the point where civil disobedience is becoming a reality, will continue, and will assume more elaborate forms until the national aspirations of the oppressed people have been achieved. For this reason, the need is great now for the Arab countries to adopt a common strategy in the face of the coming stage, as they wait for the international conference to be convened. The Arabs are now called upon to adopt a unified stand and take active and speedy measures designed to extend meaningful support and assistance to their kinsmen under Israeli rule.



Al Dustour: Enhancing Palestinian identity

JORDAN'S decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank should be viewed as being closely linked to Jordan's national and historic role regarding the Palestinian cause. The decision, coming from a country that has been constantly committed to Arab causes and serving national interest, is a part of the Kingdom's endeavours to enhance the Palestinian identity and the oppressed people's steadfastness and resistance. Jordan has been a haven for Palestinian refugees and a staunch supporter of Palestinian rights and interests. There is no doubt, then, that the Arab people in general and the Palestinians in particular appreciate the Kingdom's long standing efforts and support for their just causes, and the great sacrifices it offered in the service of the Arab Nation. Jordan, which is acting in the spirit of the Great Arab Revolt and its principles, takes pride in its services to the Arab World and continues to adhere to its national goals which it hopes to achieve under King Hussein's guidance and directives.

Sawt Al Shaab: The sole representative

JORDAN'S decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank came after consultations with the PLO, and anyone claiming otherwise must be ignorant of or absent from the deliberations of Arab leaders at the Arab Summit meetings and the Jordanian-PLO meetings. We do not want any Arab circle to give adverse interpretations of the facts; and we do not want such circles to offer a service to the Zionist propaganda machinery in this respect. We also do not want any one to misinterpret or misunderstand the Jordanian decisions and measures with regard to the West Bank, because they actually came in response to and in harmony with the resolutions of Arab Summit meetings, which reaffirmed that the PLO remains the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The Arabs have been insisting that the PLO assume this status ever since the Rabat Summit in 1974. Jordan has responded favourably to this demand and decided to open the way for the PLO to assume its full responsibilities before the whole world. Therefore, we expect the PLO to deal with the Jordanian decisions and their results with a spirit of responsibility so that no adverse effects will be imposed on the oppressed people of Palestine and their current uprising.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Determining economic liquidity

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

ONE of the most crucial objectives of the monetary policy practised by any central bank is to influence the level of liquidity in the domestic economy. Central banks employ certain instruments to achieve this objective, such as the ratio of cash reserves to be held at the central bank, the rediscount rate, and the open market operations. Thus, central banks were always able to either pump more liquidity or suck excess liquidity as they see fit based on whether or not the liquidity is lacking or in excess.

The Central Bank of Jordan is fully aware that some of the above-mentioned traditional monetary instruments are not effective in the Jordanian environment. That is why CBJ is always looking for other instruments such as fixing interest rates, swap operations, refinancing arrangements, and direct administrative intervention.

Before we discuss the importance of the monetary policy, the effectiveness of various traditional and administrative tools, and the need for the Central Bank to influence the level of liquidity in the Jordanian economy, we have to determine whether the current liquidity in the national economy is too high, too low, or just right. We have also to agree on whether the Central Bank should, under the current situation, create more liquidity or absorb part of it.

In a recent lecture delivered by Dr. Maher Shukri, deputy governor of the Central Bank of Jordan, hosted by the Association of the Amman Financial Market Intermediaries, justification was given for the new regulations issued to reorganise and enhance a secondary

market for government bonds. He expressed the strong desire of the Central Bank to have effective tools which could be used to influence the volume of liquidity in the economy.

We asked the deputy governor what the Central Bank would have done with this tool if it were available today. Would the Central Bank use the tool to increase or to reduce the liquidity? In other words, is the current liquidity in the economy, as perceived by the Central Bank, too high or too low? The answer was, I do not know. More specifically, I cannot answer on the spot, as the subject has to undergo a study.

The judgment on whether or not the current level of liquidity is appropriate or not, then, is not yet determined. No one knows for sure whether we need more or less liquidity to enable the economy to grow without inflation while protecting the current account of the balance of payments from bigger deficits. There is no consensus on whether the Central Bank should intervene to influence the level of liquidity, much less on whether such intervention should be on the give or take side.

Needless to say, the level of liquidity in the economy is something, while the rate of liquidity of the banking system is something else. The two indicators should not be confused. We can definitely see a case where the economy is too liquid, while the liquidity of the banks is running at the bare minimum. We venture to say this is the case at the present.

Walking a tightrope in Germany

By Rayna Moss

WHEN I told friends in Israel that I was going to West Germany on a speaking tour, reactions were a mixture of jealousy at having the chance to get out of the country for a while, and unbelieving stares. "How can you bear to go there to speak about our peace movement? All the Germans want to talk about is their guilt about the Holocaust and why it's impossible for them to criticise Israel!"

When I repeated these remarks to the organisers of my tour, a German-Palestinian women's union, they laughingly groaned in agreement. But it is no laughing matter. With the cynical exploitation of the Holocaust by the Israeli government and Zionists inside Germany, the bitter anger of Palestinians and their supporters when their struggle is equated with Nazism, the leftist factions comparing Israel's actions with those of the Nazis, there is

no escaping the issue. Even Amnesty International activists who have no hesitations about accusing governments around the world of abusing human rights, feel in Germany that Israel must be treated with special care.

It may be the fact that during my previous tour I had met with different people, or possibly I had expected that in view of the intifada even Germans would now see the situation more objectively. But it seemed that the subject of Israel had, if anything, become more delicate than ever. In one case, a journalist dithered for over 30 minutes before gathering the courage to ask if the imprisoned Deresh HaNitzotz journalists are "of the Arabic or Israeli nationality." And this was not an isolated incident. A German Jewish journalist asked me at the end of a two hour interview if I had anything to add. I said that I would like to comment on the issue of whether Germans could criticise the Israeli government.

"Well, that has nothing to do with joint activities of Israeli and Palestinian women," he said, and hurriedly shut off his tape recorder.

"Even Amnesty International activists, who have no hesitations about accusing governments around the world of abusing human rights, feel in Germany that Israel must be treated with special care."

The German Jewish activists find themselves in an extremely delicate position. One told me that during the Lebanon war he had helped organise demonstrations denouncing the Israeli invasion, and was bitterly hurt when some "ultra-radicals" appeared with

placards showing Begin's face on a swastika. Today he will not join any demonstration on the Palestinian issue, voicing his solidarity only in occasional writings on the subject. At a meeting on the peace process in the Middle East, the Palestinians told of a Jewish couple who, shocked by the massacre in Lebanon, printed and distributed posters against the invasion at synagogues and Jewish community centres. As a result they have been ostracised from their community.

Our delegation as a whole, whose aim was to get support for the intifada as well as for a peace programme based on the establishment of a Palestinian state, found it frustrating to have to repeat over and over again why it does not help the Jewish people to disregard human rights violations or support Israel's wars. Yet we also found we walked a tightrope. Middle East International, London.

Restlessness growing in Philippines

By Robert H. Reid

The Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — In a stark tableau, the frail old man who helped make a housewife president lectured his former protégé on the failure of her administration to bring justice and change to a nation recovering from 20 years of misrule.

"You will recall that the thirst for justice was and remains the utmost desire of our people," newspaper publisher Joaquin Rocas, 75, told President Corason Aquino in a speech after she awarded him the legion of honour last week.

"If we... show the slightest sign that we too adopt one standard for the wrongdoer who is poor and without connections, and another for the criminal who is rich and well connected, then we would be proven liars," said Rocas.

Charges that the Aquino administration has failed to live up to expectations of reform, social justice and progress are not new. They have been aired in an unrestrained Philippine press virtually from the moment a popular uprising toppled President Ferdinand Marcos' 20-year administration in February 1986 and propelled Mrs. Aquino into office.

But such chiding was all the more dramatic coming from Rocas, the dean of the Philippine press, one of Mrs. Aquino's strongest supporters and a leading figure in marshalling opposition to Marcos.

As publisher of the Manila Times, Rocas gave Mrs. Aquino's late husband Benigno his first job as a war correspondent during the Korean conflict.

In 1985, Rocas convinced Mrs. Aquino to run for president and organised the nationwide petition drive that put the former housewife on the ballot.

New order

But in his speech, Rocas said public service in the Philippines was still all too often used for "self-aggrandizement and service to vested interests, relatives and friends."

"It was not rice, roads, bridges, water, electricity and other such mundane things that people expected of us," Rocas said. "It was, and is much more: A new moral order."

Public expressions of disappointment and restlessness are increasing amid new allegations of official corruption, the slow pace of reform and human rights violations in the 19-year Communist insurgency.

"There also appear to be the stirrings of disenchantment over not only the ability of the leadership to govern but also the integrity of those who govern," wrote the economic daily Business World in a recent, front-

page commentary. Even critics acknowledge that the Aquino administration can point to notable accomplishments during its more than two years in power.

They include ratification of a new, liberal constitution and restoration of a freely elected, bicameral legislature. Last year the economy grew by 5.5 per cent, although inflation has also tripled to about 9 per cent over the previous year.

Communist rebels still control thousands of villages and even stage assassinations in the capital. But leftist sources admit that the recent arrests of seven top guerrilla leaders were a major setback.

Last month, congress enacted a land reform bill after nearly a year's debate. Critics claim the programme favours landowners and falls far short of the goals of improving the lives of 4 million landless peasants.

Human rights violations

But human rights violations continue, and the government has still not prosecuted military members accused of human rights violations under the Marcos

administration. This month, the American Bar Association, in a letter to Mrs. Aquino, expressed concern over the murders of two of five human rights lawyers slain during the past nine months. No one has been convicted of any of the killings.

Also, no one has been convicted in the January 1987 killing of 12 protesters shot dead by police and marines during a march on the presidential palace for land reform.

Maj.-Gen. Ramon Montano, the senior officer in the area during the killings, was promoted last year to commander of the Philippine Constabulary, the country's paramilitary national police.

Some Western diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity, generally applauded Mrs. Aquino's style and say that more decisive moves on such issues as land reform and the insurgency would have heightened, not reduced, social tensions.

They attribute much of the disappointment to lack of political realism among social activists, impatience in a youthful society and the residual effects of 20 years of dramatic, albeit ineffective, gestures by Marcos.

But the heady days of the 1986 "Edsa revolution," as the uprising against Marcos is known here, raised high expectations of change among the 59 million Filipinos.

But two years after Marcos' ouster, the country is still bedeviled by petty corruption, bureaucratic red tape, and widespread poverty which afflicts nearly 70 per cent of the population.

Corruption

Some observers believe that continued widespread poverty may be responsible in part for growing resentment over alleged official corruption.

In a nation where millions live in makeshift shanties, the spectacle of a small urban elite, driving chauffeured cars and living in posh neighbourhoods, encourages the belief that wealth must have been gained illegally.

"Although legal proof of graft and corruption is still hard to come by, the growing public perception is that cases of these twin evils have been aggravated," said Business World.

OPEN FORUM

Appeal for justice

WHEN it came to Jordanian courts, I was always the first to commend their integrity, credibility and concern for the preservation of the rule of law in the Kingdom. In my profession, whenever I came across citizens complaining about injustices inflicted upon them by a certain court, I have always taken their complaints with a large pinch of salt. After all, Jordan's legal system is reputed to be one of the most respected in the Arab World. Indeed, some of our laws and legal practices have been copied by other countries.

But, as I came to find out recently, injustices can occur in the legal system, and this is only normal. Everybody makes mistakes. I also know that in Jordan, once responsible people discover they somehow caused an injustice, they had no qualms about reconsidering their stand and finding ways to restore justice whenever possible. This, in my opinion, is even more commendable, being embedded in the psyche of this country's leadership.

However, it seems I have come across one exception to that spirit in a way that is very painful for me, as it has severely shaken my faith in our legal system and the rule of law.

The case I am presenting here, to all those who do not allow injustice if they can help it, involves a man who felt a victim of fraud by another man whose conscience allowed him such action.

The victim in this case was done clear injustice by the Court of Appeals which has refused to look into three separate pieces of documented evidence of his innocence, any of which could have achieved justice. The court went ahead and condemned the victim without hearing or seeing his defence.

The victim, and I call him that because I have seen the evidence, is now condemned to lose his life's savings and to serve a prison sentence for a crime he did not commit. It may sound unbelievable, but the fact is that the court, has ruled without hearing the victim's defence, which would have unequivocally declared him innocent. In addition to that, the Court of Appeals has made a ruling which is in contradiction with precedents of similar cases ruled by the Court of Cassation, which is the higher court.

The victim has appealed to the Minister of Justice to take the case to the Court of Cassation, with the hope of presenting his evidence overlooked by the Court of Appeals. The minister, who is empowered to take the case to the higher court according to the law, decided to give the case to an inspector at the ministry who ruled, again without seeing the evidence the victim had, that the case did not deserve to go to the Court of Cassation. The minister, I was told, endorsed the recommendation by the inspector, and rejected the appeal, also without seeing the available evidence and without consideration to the fact that the ruling by the Court of Appeals contradicted precedents established by the Court of Cassation on similar cases.

This means that the ruling by the Court of Appeals will now be executed, inflicting painful injustice on an old man of 66 years. Before writing about this case, I have spoken to half a dozen lawyers and legal advisors who were all shocked to see the way the legal process was carried out. The victim's lawyer, stunned by the way the case developed, declared himself helpless to do anything in light of the situation.

Many good citizens have contacted the Minister of Justice on behalf of the victim, in an attempt to explain the situation. The Minister of Justice, who is rightly full of faith in his courts, declined to interfere for considerations of his own. These may be legitimate considerations, but injustice was nevertheless done. When the Court of Appeals announced its unjust ruling, it made it in the name of His Majesty the King.

I hereby appeal to His Majesty the King, the Prime Minister and the Minister of Justice to restore justice to this man by giving him a chance to take his case to a higher court. Unlike the victim in this case, I believe there is still a chance for justice.

Salameh Ne'mati
Amman

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King: Decision serves Palestinian cause

(Continued from page 1)

The King voiced high appreciation of the Jordanian people's awareness of these destructive efforts and the people's "adherence to their national identity and their preservation of Jordan as a shield for Palestine and the Arab Nation."

The King called for continued support of the Palestinian people and their blessed uprising until it reaches its

objectives. He also urged efforts to abort moves aimed at undermining "our blessed and sacred national unity under which all citizens are equal in rights and obligations."

"There is no distinction between one citizen from another," the King said. "The people of this country will equally share all its offers and there is no room except for

equal rights and equal obligations."

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, in his name and in the name of all ministers, expressed pride in the trust of His Majesty and pledged to continue to implement His Majesty's directives, whether on the national or pan-Arab level.

The Cabinet meeting was attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem.

Iran Mujahedeen call for urgent action against mass executions

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — The Iranian opposition movement, Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, has issued an urgent appeal for international action against what it describes as mass public executions of dissidents by the Iranian regime.

In a telegram addressed to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Mujahedeen leader Massoud Rajavi appeared to be calling on the U.N. to expel Iran.

Rajavi pointed to "the Khomenei regime's mass public executions of innocent people, including the execution of seven innocent residents of Kerman-shah on Aug. 1," according to Mujahedeen communique telegraphed from Baghdad to the Jordan Times Friday.

"The Khomenei regime does not deserve to be a member of the family of the United Nations," it said. "Due to its medieval nature, the Khomenei regime has always been and will remain the source of export of crisis and terrorism. Therefore, the establishment of any form of lasting peace in the region, the longstanding and principal desire of the Iranian nation and resistance, is impossible without considering the conduct of this regime."

The telegram said that the Khomenei regime had resorted to the brutal torture and murder of prisoners of the war.

Rajavi also referred the "execution of more than 70,000 persons and the infliction of 73 kinds

of torture on 140,000 political prisoners." He asserted that despite Iran's signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations Charter, the ruling regime in Tehran "does not have the slightest regard for humanitarian principles or international conventions." And "this regime has declared that it does not at all value the principles of civilised world but abides by a code of bloody savagery which it terms 'Islamic law'."

Rajavi urged the secretary-general, "in the name of peace and freedom for the people of Iran and in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations Charter, to give special attention to these crimes in the framework of (his) efforts to promote peace."

Earlier Friday, Iran's chief justice hinted that Mujahedeen-e-Khalq members were being executed without trial after its offensive into western Iran last week.

"The judiciary is under very strong pressure from public opinion (asking) why we even put them on trial, why some of them are jailed and all are not executed," Abdul Karim Mousavi Ardebili said of the Mujahedeen.

The Mujahedeen's National Liberation Army (NLA) penetrated more than 100 kilometres into Iran from bases in Iraq and occupied several towns in an offensive before withdrawing or pushed back last Friday.

"The people say they should all be executed without exception," Ardebili said in a Friday prayer sermon broadcast on Tehran Radio. "I should thank (the Mujahedeen) for making our job easy."

He said there was no longer any need to send Mujahedeen members for trial in groups of 10 or 20 and get involved in cumbersome paperwork.

A Mujahedeen spokesman in Baghdad told Reuters in Cyprus

that Ardebili's remarks showed the Iranian government was intent on "sending groups of defenceless and innocent prisoners to the firing squad to cover up its military defeats."

He called for urgent action by international human rights groups to "prevent criminal and anti-human acts of the Khomenei regime."

Another opposition group said Iran had started executing groups of political prisoners and burying them in mass graves.

A Tudeh (Communist) Party radio broadcast from Kabul, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said Tehran was using the Mujahedeen offensive as a pretext for "an extensive

Cabinet undergoes limited reshuffle

(Continued from page 1)

reshuffle since Rifai was appointed premier by King Hussein in April 1985.

Kanaan has served as director of education in the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA). He held a ministerial post in the government of Ahmad Obeidat which preceded the Rifai government and also served as member of the now-defunct National Consultative Council.

Toukan served as professor at the University of Jordan.

Committee abolished

In another decision in implementation of the Jordanian move to sever legal and administrative links with the West Bank, the cabinet announced Saturday that the Higher Committee for West Bank Affairs was abolished. The committee was set up in 1972.

The committee was specifically responsible for the various administrative, financial and social affairs in the West Bank. The committee also supervised the traffic of people and goods between both banks of River Jordan.

The King announced Sunday

that Jordan was severing legal and administrative ties with the West Bank in compliance with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) wishes and Arab summit resolutions and to allow the PLO to shoulder its responsibilities in full as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

PLO team due Thursday

A senior PLO official in Jordan told the Jordan Times Saturday that a high-level PLO delegation was scheduled to arrive here Thursday for discussions. He did not say who will head the delegation but agency reports indicated that it could be Mahmoud Abbas, a member of the PLO Executive Committee. The PLO official in Amman said: "Our relationship with Jordan is special... we are partners, and the Palestinian delegation due to arrive here on Thursday will discuss PLO coordination with Jordan."

"We are committed to the special relationship between the PLO and Jordan (and) we are committed to the unity... and a confederation with Jordan," he said. He added: "The final decision will be made clear after this week's talks in Amman."

'Government-in-exile'

In reply to a question on reports of proposals to announce a Palestinian government-in-exile, the official said: "I think that the PLO is not ready at this time to adopt such a measure."

He pointed out that any such measure would "need Arab and international acceptance and recognition."

Asked whether the PLO would be able to fill the vacuum left by the Jordanian move, the official, who insisted on anonymity, said: "The problem is not of the responsibility but of the political and legal vacuum."

Passports

He said he believed that Jordan would not withdraw Jordanian passports issued to residents of the West Bank. "It is an Arab problem," he said.

"I am sure that that no Jordanian of Palestinian origin carrying a valid Jordanian passport will lose his passport... this is a direct statement from the Jordanian minister of interior," he said.

A senior Jordanian official, who also preferred anonymity, was quoted by the Associated Press Saturday as saying that "Jordan will stay committed to the rights of all of its citizens, regardless of origin, unless the PLO asks the contrary."

"Any citizen who holds a Jordanian passport, wherever he resides and regardless of his origin, is a son of this country and part of our big family," the official said.

The official affirmed that Jordan "will continue to provide the people of the West Bank with all the social services they need and will never deny them such rights."

He was referring to civil documents — marriage, death and birth certificates etc. — that the Kingdom provided through its institutions in the West Bank despite the Israeli occupation.

Uprising leaders' options

According to reports from the West Bank, leaders of the Palestinian uprising may declare an independent state following Jordan's decision to sever ties with the West Bank.

Sources quoted by Reuters said this was among three options

under study by the underground leaders.

Issuing a "declaration of independence" for a Palestinian state under occupation in the West Bank would be designed to bring pressure on the international community to recognise Palestinian self-determination, the sources said.

The second option was forming a government-in-exile, which has been discussed in PLO circles for years.

Palestinian leaders were also considering asking the United Nations to become "custodian" of the West Bank and Gaza, administering daily life, the sources said.

Any decision taken by local Palestinians would be submitted to the Palestine National Council, which is expected to meet in the coming months.

Israel has vowed to keep PLO influence at bay.

"Israel will prevent any attempt by the PLO to increase funding to the territories," Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Saturday.

"Israel won't let the PLO fill the void created by (Jordan's) move," he added.

U.S. position

U.S. acting Secretary of State John Whitehead has raised the possibility the United States may have to accede to separate Palestinian representation in peace talks with Israel instead of a joint delegation with Jordan.

In the aftermath of Jordan's recent decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank, "presumably they (Palestinians) will have to be directly represented (in peace talks) rather than under the umbrella of Jordan," Whitehead said.

State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley insisted the U.S. position, embodying a joint Jordan-Palestinian delegation in Secretary of State George Shultz's Middle East peace plan, had not changed.

Whitehead, interviewed on WorldNet, serves as acting secretary when Shultz, now in South America, is out of the country.

In the interview, Whitehead stressed it was "still premature to understand the full implications of Jordan's recent decision." But he said the United States still believed it was possible to bring about direct Arab-Israeli negotiations.

Iraq drops demand

(Continued from page 1)

Gulf according to international laws, as soon as a ceasefire takes place."

"We extend a hand of peace and tolerance to the Iranian peoples irrespective of any bitterness we have and the aggression against us," Hussein said.

He said his country cannot forgive "the bitterness of (Iran's) injustice."

"Nevertheless, we extend a hand of friendship and tolerance to the Iranian people despite the hardship we suffered from their rulers."

But he warned: "If Iran rejects direct talks... it will emphasise that it has once again rejected an honourable, peaceful settlement and we will hold the Iranian regime responsible for the blood-letting."

He said Iraq had insisted on direct talks first "because we wanted to test Iran's good intentions on the cause of peace."

Iraqi officials earlier said without guarantees of face-to-face talks and a peace settlement, Iran might use a truce to rebuild its battered military for further fighting.

Hussein said Iraq reversed its stand on preliminary talks after consultations with other Arab leaders and his talks with members of the Iraqi leadership.

Hussein said that by taking this move, "we prove to our people and to the people of the world at large that we didn't want to humiliate Iran and we didn't want Iranians to suffer an injustice."

Hussein noted: "We cannot remove Iran from the map. It is our neighbour and we have to live with it."

But he said Iran's leaders, who had earlier made his own downfall a condition for ending the war, were "driven by malice, ambition and expansionism" and "initiated this war... which caused a river of blood between the two countries."

The U.N. resolution calls for an international commission to investigate the causes of the war. Iran previously insisted that it would not stop fighting until Iraq was branded "the aggressor," reparations were agreed upon and Hussein was toppled.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, after a series of separate meetings with the Iraqi and Iranian foreign ministers in New York, proposed a compromise formula which he said would provide "an instrumentality between direct talks and a ceasefire."

He declined to give details, but diplomats said it would require both Iran and Iraq to give assurances of their true interest in implementing all parts of Resolution 598, which was passed in July 1987.

This includes provisions for a negotiated, comprehensive settlement of the war.

If they agreed, Perez de Cuellar could then announce a ceasefire date with direct talks on broader issues starting simultaneously or soon afterwards, the diplomats said.

Hussein held talks with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al

Faisal Saturday on efforts to implement the ceasefire resolution, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported.

Iraq reports war booty

Iraq said Saturday it had seized a huge volume of arms from Iran during a big offensive along the Gulf war front late last month.

Baghdad Radio broke into normal programmes to broadcast a military statement listing Iraq's booty from the offensive it launched July 22, four days after Iran accepted a year-old U.N. ceasefire resolution.

Iraq said the offensive along the 1,200-kilometre front was to regain Iranian-held territory and to capture prisoners, who would be used as a bargaining counter in peace talks.

Iraq captured 18,000 prisoners in the offensive and now holds 30,000 Iranian prisoners of war (PoWs), compared with more than 50,000 Iraqis registered by the International Committee of Red Cross as held in Iran.

Iraq to privatise 47 firms

BAGHDAD (R) — The Iraqi government is to sell off 47 state-run factories across the country in a drive to boost private industry, a Baghdad newspaper reported Saturday.

The English-language Baghdad Observer said Hussein Kamel, newly-appointed minister of industry and military industrialisation, announced the decision at a recent meeting with a group of businessmen.

"The sale of factories to the private sector is designed to give a wider role for this sector in pushing forward Iraq's economic development," Kamel was

quoted as saying.

He said that if private business were not interested in buying the factories, the government would form them into cooperatives with shares initially sold to employees.

The paper gave no details of the factories but business sources said they mostly made textile, plastic and aluminium products.

Kamel said the Military Industry Commission, which he also

heads, had prepared a large fleet of heavy trucks for private sale to companies or individuals.

"The objective is to facilitate the export of Iraqi goods, commodities and raw materials to Arab and foreign markets," Kamel said.

"The fleet will hopefully undertake to transport Iraqi imports which currently cost the country large sums in hard currency," he added.

The Military Industry Commission runs a high-technology network making heavy equipment for military and civilian use —

including Iraq's Al Hussein missile which it used to bombard Iran during the war of the cities which halted in April.

Kamel said the importers would be allowed to pay 60 per cent of the cost of imported machinery to foreign suppliers in hard currency, instead of the present 50 per cent. This was to encourage investment in the private sector.

He called on Iraqi businessmen to explore new areas of enterprise with an emphasis on making components essential for existing national industries.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for August 6, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	—	—	—
Top three companies:			
Jordan Cement Factories	23731 JD	28601	29
Arab Bank Ltd.	70 JD	7635	3
Jordan National Bank	3025 JD	7563	5
Parallel market:	17704 JD	7874	—
Development bonds:	198 JD	2079	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—
Other debentures:	—	—	—

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday rates			
Local sell/buy rates in JLD			
Belgian franc (for 100)	93.8/94.7	Saudi riyal	100.0/102.0
Dutch guilder	173.7/175.4	Syrian lira	10.0/10.52
French franc	82.1/82.7	Lebanese lira	1.0/1.14
Italian lira (for 100)	26.6/26.9	Iraqi dinar	290.5/310.5
Japanese yen (for 100)	277.4/280.2	Kuwaiti dinar	1310.0/1320.0
Swedish crown	57.6/58.2	Egyptian pound	102.2/103.0
Swiss franc	234.8/237.1	Omani riyal	101.2/101.3
U.K. sterling pound	627.4/633.7	UAE dirham	967.0/972.5
U.S. dollar	371.3/375.3	Bahraini dinar	985.0/992.5
Deutschemark	196.0/198.0		

JORDAN BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Ministry of Industry and Trade	663191	Jordan Commercial Centres	602807
Ministry of Supply	602121	Free Zones Corporation	642001
Ministry of Finance	636321	Amman Financial Market	660170
Ministry of Planning	644466	Amman Chamber of Commerce	666151
Ministry of Labour	633186	Amman Chamber of Industry	644747
Ministry of Communications	647391	Association of Banks in Jordan	662258
Ministry of Agriculture	639391	Jordan Association of Insurance Companies	647370
Income Tax Department	660151	General Statistics Department	646171
Central Bank of Jordan	630301	Jordanian Businessmen Association	680663
Amman Customs Department	721281		
Social Security Corporation	643000		
Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation	721194		

Jordan toughens terms for contractors

AMMAN (Petra) — Contractors with no valid classification certificates from the concerned authorities would not be allowed to purchase tender documents nor will they be allowed to take part in bid-offering for government tenders, according to an official communiqué issued by the prime minister's office Saturday.

The communiqué ruled that contractors who have been awarded tenders should honour all the terms of their contracts and duly carry them out; and should not endorse them to other

contractors against a commission. The communiqué also made it clear that a contractor should be present at the site of any project under construction and should not entrust any agent or technical team, provided by other contractors, to supervise the implementation of the project.

It said that the concerned authorities will not accept any tender guarantees except only under names of persons or companies involved in the tender or to whom a given tender had been awarded.

New Lebanese liras to ease paper burden

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon will ease the burden of harassed shoppers carrying huge wads of devalued paper money when it circulates new large-unit banknotes this week.

A central bank statement Saturday said the banknotes for 500 and 1,000 Lebanese liras would be issued Wednesday, not because of the economic climate but "to facilitate the citizen's everyday transactions."

It did not give the total value of the new issues, which have been printed in London.

The Lebanese lira, once the strongest currency in the Middle

East, plunged in the last four years in the face of high inflation, political instability and continuing civil war.

It was worth four to the U.S. dollar in early 1984. Friday, it closed at around 350 to the dollar.

The highest-denomination banknote in circulation now is 250 liras (70 cents), and many people carry their money in bags.

The central bank cancelled plans to float the new notes last year because, economists said, it might have sparked market hysteria.

UAE bank wants better Soviet ties

MOSCOW (R) — One of the United Arab Emirates' (UAE) biggest bank is prepared to finance joint ventures with Soviet partners and consider fresh credits for Soviet banks, its chairman said in an interview published Saturday.

Suror Iba Sultan Al Dhaheri, chairman of the Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank, told the official news agency TASS during a visit

here that the bank was studying further financial and commercial cooperation with the Soviet Union.

"The Abu Dhabi Commercial bank is prepared to finance the creation of joint ventures of Soviet and foreign partners," Al Dhaheri said.

Following the success of a \$50 million credit granted to the Soviet Union in April the bank

would be prepared to consider further such requests from Soviet banks, he added.

"The Soviet Union enjoys the reputation of a reliable borrower," he added.

Al Dhaheri proposed the creation of a direct air link between Abu Dhabi and Samarkand, a major Muslim cultural centre in Soviet Central Asia as a means of boosting tourism between the two countries.

New study forecasts sharp drop in world grain supplies

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The world's stockpile of grain will drop so sharply there is likely to be less food available at the end of this year than at almost any other time this century, a private institute predicted Saturday.

"The only time this century the world has faced such a tight food situation was in 1972," said Lester Brown, president of Worldwatch — a private body funded in part by the United Nations — in the latest issue of institute's magazine.

Grain stocks at the end of this

year could fall to 54 days of world consumption — below a 57-day level in 1973 that more than doubled grain prices.

The fall is the steepest ever recorded and follows searing drought in the United States, Canada and China.

Brown said drought would reduce the 1988 North American grain harvest by about a quarter, or some 84 million tons, from last year.

"In China, which ranks a close second to the United States as a food producer, severe drought

conditions could easily reduce the harvest by one-eighth, or 30 million tons," he said.

But India's harvest could rise by 24 million tons, the Soviet Union's by more than four million tons and Europe's (East and West) by as much as 17 million tons, Brown said.

There was little evidence of change in Africa and Australia and the fall in the global harvest could be some 76 million tons below 1987 levels, which were, down 85 million tons from the preceding year, he said.

Riyadh widens bond trading

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — The Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) is now permitting the kingdom's 12 commercial banks to use the government's development bonds in mutual fund offerings to Saudi nationals, bankers said Saturday.

The decision will give Saudis another opportunity to invest in their country and "may make the bonds more attractive to banks since it gives us another way to use them," a Saudi banker noted.

The bonds, which are designed to help defray Saudi Arabia's projected 35-billion-riyal (\$9.3 billion) budget deficit this year, were initially offered only to the state-owned Civil Service Pension Fund and the General Organisation for Social Insurance.

SAMA began offering the bonds to commercial banks June 11, with yields on par with U.S. treasury bonds. However, the banks were not allowed to sell the bonds and financial sources in the

kingdom maintain that the initial offerings were undersubscribed.

SAMA issues 1.5 billion riyals in one-year through five-year bonds twice monthly. The fourth issue was tendered last Saturday. It plans to issue a total of 30 billion riyals (\$8 billion).

SAMA, which effectively is the kingdom's central bank, began exploring the creation of a secondary market for the government bonds last month. It asked banks to submit the names of possible institutional investors and has already told bankers that they can offer bonds to investors approved by SAMA.

SAMA has also sought to generate primary-market interest in the bonds when it began a modest repurchase programme Aug. 1 which allows commercial banks to resell 10 per cent of their total bond exposures back to the agency.

The kingdom moved to issue bonds this year after relying heavily on capital reserves in recent years to finance a debt repurchased annually since oil prices began to drop in the early 1980's.

Since Saudi Arabia is ruled by Islamic law which forbids the collection or payment of interest, the government was forced to create a debt instrument acceptable to religious leaders.

The solution was to link the bonds' yields to "development projects" so that returns are not viewed as interest, but shared profits. The banks calculate yields on the bonds based on coupons which require payment by the government every six months.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Roma set to sign second Brazilian

ROME (R) — Brazilian midfielder Andrade is set to join Italian first division soccer club Roma after 19 years with Flamengo of Rio de Janeiro. Roma spokesman Pierpaolo Marino said Andrade was due in Rome Monday to wrap up details of a one-year contract. Club sources valued the deal at about one million dollars. "All that remains is to formalize agreements that already exist and we will do that next week," Marino said. Jorge Luis Andrade da Silva has spent his entire professional career with Flamengo and joined the first team in 1979 after starting as an apprentice. At Roma, he will join West German striker Rudi Voller and Flamengo teammate Renato Portoluppi, whose transfer was announced previously. Roma had to cede Danish midfielder Klaus Berggreen to buy Andrade because of rules which limit the number of foreign players in an Italian first division club to three. Berggreen's old home club Lyngby has said he will return there until Oct. 1 pending a possible move to another foreign club.

Cruyff finally gets licence

AMSTERDAM (R) — Johan Cruyff, 41, former Dutch soccer captain, was finally given a trainers licence this week — three years after he began guiding some of Europe's top clubs. The slender, cigarette-smoking Cruyff trained Dutch sides Roda JC Kerkrade and Ajax Amsterdam before moving to Spanish team Barcelona — all the time without an official licence. He also wrote a weekly training column in the largest Dutch daily newspaper De Telegraaf. But the Dutch football association (KNVB) said a full licence could be issued only with the permission of the sports minister because Cruyff had not served an apprenticeship. The situation was finally remedied Friday when KNVB chairman Jo van Marle presented Cruyff with the official papers in Rotterdam. "We felt Cruyff had earned the licence because of his merits to soccer, but we needed ministerial approval before we could give the licence," he said.

Ollerton charged with punching referee

MELBOURNE (R) — Former Australian international Peter Ollerton is to appear before Victoria's soccer authorities Wednesday charged with punching the referee during a second division soccer match a week ago. Ollerton, who played for Australia in the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany, is alleged to have struck the referee on the head after being ordered off for using abusive language. In another incident Saturday, a referee was taken to hospital after an assault during a Victorian third division match. The match between Clarinda and Springvale United was scoreless when two Springvale players allegedly attacked the referee who immediately abandoned the game.

Bologna pays \$1m for Chilean star

SANTIAGO (R) — Bologna and Chile's Colo Colo have agreed on a one-million-dollar deal — a Chilean record figure — for the transfer of star forward Hugo Rubio to the Italian club, Chilean Soccer Federation officials said. The deal, finalized Thursday night, had been delayed by a dispute between Colo Colo and Chile's Cobreloa, Rubio's former club, which claimed Colo Colo were trying to renege on an agreement giving them the right to a share of any future transfer fee. Under the agreement, Colo Colo will receive \$790,000, Cobreloa \$110,000 and the 28-year-old Rubio, who is already in Italy, \$118,000. Bologna were promoted to the Italian first division last season.

Tunisia outclasses Guinea

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) — Jamel-Eddine Limam scored two late goals in the 83rd and 85th minutes Friday night to cap a 5-0 Tunisian thrashing of Guinea in the first round of Africa Zone eliminations for the 1990 World Cup of soccer. The halftime score was 2-0. The match, officiated by a trio of Egyptians led by referee Hossem Eddine, was every bit as lopsided as the score indicated, with the Tunisians totally dominating the play and the Guinea side showing a serious lack of coordination and offensive punch. As about 30,000 spectators looked on, Bessam Jeridi opened the scoring with a goal in the 21st minute. That was followed by a penalty netted by Nabil Maaloul in the 35th minute, rounding out the first half. The third goal, first of the second half, was scored by Kais Yaakoubi in the 77th minute, leaving Limam to complete the job with his two rapid goals. The return match between the two teams is scheduled for Aug. 21 in Conakry.

Mexico beats Irish soccer team

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Alfonso Sosa and Octavio Mora scored goals in the second half to lead the Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico, to a 3-0 victory over the Irish Olympic team Friday night in the second game of the Marlboro Soccer Cup of Los Angeles. In the first game, Carlos Castaneda scored on a header 16 minutes into the second half to give Guatemala's Olympic team a 2-1 victory over El Salvador's Olympic squad before a crowd of 18,791 at the coliseum. Guatemala will face the Universidad de Guadalajara in the championship game Sunday. Ireland will play El Salvador for third place.

Paez wins IBF featherweight title

MEXICALI, Mexico (AP) — Jorge "Maromero" Paez of Mexico won the International Boxing Federation (IBF) featherweight title Thursday, defeating Calvin Grove of the United States in a 15-round split decision. Paez has won 22 of his 23 professional fights. Judge Jim Taylor scored the fight at 142-142 tie, judge David McAllough scored it 143-140 in favour of Paez and judge Robert Gonzalez scored it 142-140 for Paez. Paez is the first Mexican to hold the IBF title. The fight took place in the Calefia bullfighting ring in the capital of the western state of Baja California.

Baseball Standings

NEW YORK (AP) — Major league baseball standings after Friday's games:

American League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Detroit	65	43	.602	—
Boston	62	46	.574	3
New York	60	48	.558	4
Milwaukee	55	55	.500	11
Toronto	54	56	.491	12
Cleveland	52	57	.477	13½
Baltimore	36	72	.333	29
West Division				
Oakland	68	42	.618	—
Minnesota	61	47	.565	8
California	56	53	.514	11½
Kansas City	54	54	.500	13
Texas	47	59	.443	18
Chicago	48	61	.440	18½
Seattle	41	68	.376	26½
National League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	65	43	.602	—
Pittsburgh	60	48	.558	5
Milwaukee	58	49	.542	6½
Chicago	52	55	.486	12½
Philadelphia	47	61	.435	18
St. Louis	47	61	.435	18
West Division				
Los Angeles	61	46	.570	—
Houston	59	49	.546	2½
San Francisco	57	51	.528	4½
Cincinnati	54	54	.500	7½
San Diego	50	59	.458	12
Atlanta	37	71	.343	24½

Yugoslav soccer season kicks off after scandal

BELGRADE (R) — Yugoslav soccer kicked off a new season this weekend after the national association resolved a major relegation conflict caused by a match-rigging scandal.

The association ruled Friday on punishments and the composition of the league, ending a wrangle that threatened until the last moment to stall the start of the season, soccer officials said.

Restored Celik to the first division, but with a six-point handicap. It rejected an appeal against relegation by Pristina and ruled that this club should start the season in the second division also with a six-point handicap.

Three clubs — Pristina, Celik and Sutjeska — fought out an off-field battle over relegation through the summer.

The scandal broke when, in last season's final round, Pristina lost 3-2 to Celik in a home match after being two goals up and conceding three goals in the last three minutes, thus saving Celik from relegation to the second division.

A few minutes earlier, elsewhere in Yugoslavia, Sutjeska had held Red Star Belgrade to a 2-2 draw, a result which gave Red Star their 16th title. It would also have saved Sutjeska from relegation if there had not been the turnabout in the Celik-Pristina match.

Telecommunications at the towns concerned were mysteriously cut during the vital minutes.

McEnroe survives U.S. hardcourts tennis match

INDIANAPOLIS (Agencies) — John McEnroe survived a shaky start to overcome qualifier Michael Robertson 7-5, 6-2 Friday night at the rain-delayed \$415,000 U.S. Hardcourts Tennis Tournament.

Play was suspended twice for a total of 5½ hours when heavy thundershowers lashed the Indianapolis sports centre.

Top seed Boris Becker rolled past Yehiya Dombia 6-2, 6-3 in their one-hour quarterfinal match.

Robertson, a South African who played college tennis at Miami, Florida, jumped out to a 3-0 lead against the fifth seed.

He was serving at 4-4, 30-all when McEnroe netted a forehand and Robertson fired an ace for a 5-4 advantage.

McEnroe, who received a warning from chair umpire Rudy Berger for slamming a ball onto the court and a point penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct, eventually settled down to win his service at 4-0 in the 11th game and took the set 7-5.

But the New Yorker knocked over his chair in anger during a changeover after Robertson led 1-0 in the second set.

McEnroe and Robertson did not take the stadium court for their match until nearly 11:30 p.m. (2330 GMT). "You can't control the weather but it's absurd for me to play this late and come back at 1," McEnroe said.

"I've been making an extra effort, and I'd like to see some slack the other way."

McEnroe will play his semifinal match early Saturday afternoon.

Becker needed just 65 minutes

on Friday to gain the semifinals. In Saturday's semifinals, Becker, the two-time Wimbledon champion, will play local favourite Todd Witsken.

The unseeded Witsken was on court for two hours and 34 minutes and waited out two rainstorm delays before beating 13th-seeded fellow-American Jim Pugh 6-3, 4-6, 6-3.

Becker raised his game against the unheralded African, who is ranked 98th in the world. In the first set the West German piled up a quick 5-1 lead and in the second set he also took charge from the very beginning.

"I really played hard. I heard how he plays and that he is talented," said Becker, who is ranked fifth in the world.

"I wanted to take control of the match early. I didn't want to make it a long match because we have the semis tomorrow. I played my best match of the tourney."

Mancini bows to Mattar

In Kitzbuehel, Austria, Argentina's Alberto Mancini Friday upset top-seeded Henri Leconte from the \$290,000 Austrian Open men's Grand Prix tennis tournament in the third round but did not survive the quarterfinals.

Mancini beat the French tournament favourite in 49 minutes 6-1, 6-1. Only a few hours

later, in the quarterfinals, ninth-seeded Luiz Mattar of Brazil then subdued the Argentinian 7-5, 6-3. Mancini, who was 15th-seeded in the current tournament, is in 54th place in world rankings, 43 places behind Leconte.

In other quarterfinal action Friday, second-seeded Guillermo Perez-Roldan of Argentina downed Jordi Arrese of Spain, seeded tenth, 6-4, 4-6, 6-0, while another Spaniard, fourth-seeded Emilio Sanchez, eliminated sixth-seeded Thomas Muster of Austria 6-1, 6-7 (5-7), 6-4.

In the last quarterfinal meet Friday, third-seeded Kent Carlsson of Sweden defeated Marian Vajda of Czechoslovakia 6-2, 6-4.

This meant that all Austrians and all Czechoslovak players were ousted from the tournament before Saturday's semifinals.

In the semifinals, Perez-Roldan, now the tournament favourite, meets Carlsson and Sanchez plays Mattar.

Graham gets to semifinals

In San Diego, California, American teenager Debbie Graham, ranked 315th in the world, reached the semifinals of the \$100,000 San Diego Women's Tennis Tournament with a 1-6, 6-2, 6-3 win over compatriot Lisa Bonder-Kreis Friday.

Graham, a 17-year-old qualifier, will meet fellow-American Stephanie Rehe, the second seed, in Saturday's semifinals.

"I'm still in shock about winning the first round," Graham said. "I just wanted to turn in a good showing and win a few games."

For some religion comes before Olympic medal dream

BIRMINGHAM, England (AP) — Like all track and field competitors, British jumper Barrington Williams and Jonathan Edwards dream of winning an Olympic medal.

But as devout Christians, they are not prepared to allow their Olympic hopes to come before their religious beliefs and they refuse to compete on a Sunday.

And that has put Williams out of contention for the Olympic long jump and triple jumper Edwards out of the British Olympic trials.

In Birmingham, most of Britain's leading athletes are taking part in the three-day trials and the Olympic team selectors have been told to pick only the first two in each event plus a discretionary third.

Edwards hopes to be one of discretionary selections, while Williams, 32, has switched to sprinting in the hope of gaining a place in Britain's Olympic 400 metre relay team.

In Friday's action at the trials, Williams boosted his chances by finishing a surprising third behind leading medal contenders Linford Christie and Jon Regis.

He defied a nagging hamstring injury to beat some of the nation's best specialist sprinters and can feel confident his name will

on the list when the selectors name the Olympic team Monday.

After his performance, the Pentecostal lay preacher with the Apostolic church, quipped: "I suppose you might say it was a miracle."

Explaining his change of event, Williams said: "I decided during the indoor season to start sprinting in the hope of getting a place in the Olympic 100 metres or, more likely, the relay."

"But after the Olympics are out of my mind, I will concentrate on long jumping again."

A 7.91-metre jumper, Williams said his substitute goal in his favoured event is to reach 8 metres.

"It's a shame it has to happen this way," he said.

"But the officials want to hold the long jump on a Sunday and there's nothing I can do about that."

It is a scenario being billed in the British media as a near-repeat of the 1924 drama depicted in the Oscar-winning movie, Chariots of Fire.

The movie tells the story of how sprinter Eric Liddell, played by Ian Charleson, refused to compete on the sabbath at the 1924 Olympics. Liddell won a gold medal in the 400 metres after withdrawing from the 100-metre

race.

Williams said he first encountered the sport-religion conflict before he took up track and field.

"I was playing football (soccer) at the time, but I had to tell the rest of the team I could not play on a Sunday."

"It meant I would be missing out on communion and I decided football had to go," Williams said.

"God gives you a natural talent and it's up to the individual to use it the best way. But I have always said I will not run on a Sunday."

Williams said he and Edwards, who has a season's best of 16.74 metres, have discussed the conflict when they had met at meets.

Edwards, Britain's second-ranked triple jumper told the tabloid Daily Mail: "My Christian beliefs are more important to me than athletics."

"No matter what anyone says, I am not competing on a Sunday. God is my life whereas athletics is just my sport," he was quoted as saying.

"It would be nice if the other competitors didn't jump as far as I have because it would be a dream to go to the Olympics."

"(But) God is the most important thing to me and the selectors know of my principles."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND ORLA SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A1076 ♠7 ♠A103 ♠762
Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?
- Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQJ872 ♠K73 ♠9 ♠AK6
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
? What do you bid now?
- Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠92 ♠AK6 ♠AQJ3 ♠763
Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?
- Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQ6 ♠A106 ♠KJ87 ♠QJ8
Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?
- Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AQ85 ♠AJ10632 ♠QJ6
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
3 NT ? What action do you take?
- Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AK83 ♠AQ92 ♠AJ763
Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"We can afford our vacation if we cut expenses to the bone. First, we'll row from New York to London..."

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DAMMA
TOAQU
SLOMBY
CREEFI



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: HIS "O O O O O O" OF "O O O O O O"

Yesterday's Jumbles: ARRAY HAVOC NEEDLE JOCKEY

Answer: Why it's so easy to milk a cow—ANY "JERK" CAN DO IT

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You can get a good start early this Sunday by communicating with those you want to be with. Do any studying or paperwork requiring your attention. Be exact and precise to get your ideas across clearly.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) The morning is the best time for visiting. Later a new acquaintance and an old friend should be kept apart to avoid a problem.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You will have good ideas regarding property matters; things should work out beautifully. Don't get caught in the middle of a dispute.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Show your friends that you appreciate them and value their loyalty today. Tonight steer clear of someone who makes you feel sad.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Discussions with close friends will help you become more practical and successful. Plan the future wisely, and stop getting into debt. Use tact with your mate.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Have fun with good friends this morning. After lunch please your mate and solve a problem bothering him or her. You have a flair for this.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get an early start taking care of outside affairs vital to your welfare, but handle responsibilities at home tonight. Be careful in motion.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Put that new idea in operation this morning for positive results. You can make new acquaintances during the day.

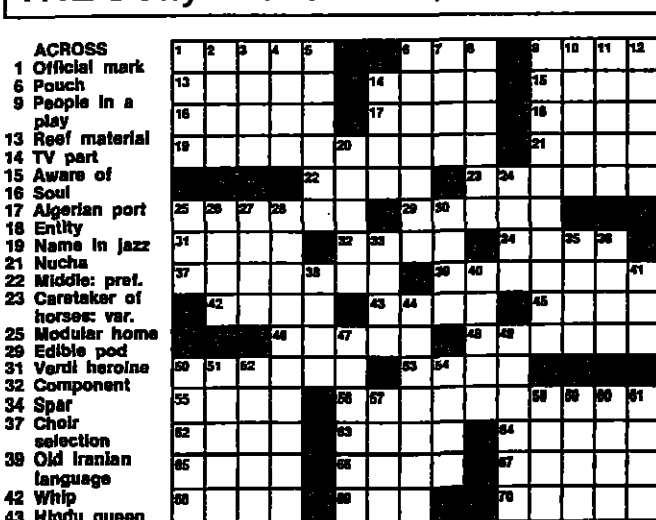
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Discussions with experts in practical matters can give you good ideas how to handle your own affairs. Set up a long-term budget.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Study your debts and do something about them. Collect money owed to you. Find a new outlet for greater income.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Try to spend the morning with cheerful people who make you feel better, but later help someone in trouble. Work around the house.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Assist your family in making your home more charming. Later handle important outside duties. Lend a helping hand to a superior.

THE Daily Crossword by Judson G. Trent



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- ACROSS**
- Official mark
 - Pouch
 - People in a play
 - Reel material
 - TV part
 - Aware of
 - Soul
 - Algerian port
 - Entity
 - Name in jazz
 - Nucha
 - Middle: pret.
 - Caretaker of horses; var.
 - Modular home
 - Edible pod
 - Verdi heroine
 - Component
 - Spaf
 - Choir selection
 - Old Iranian language
 - Whip
 - Hindu queen
 - Whit
 - Merchandise
 - Egg dish
 - Melon
 - Nimbus
 - Of
 - Name in jazz
 - Revolve
 - Recap
 - "Of" of robins
 - In
 - Supply
 - Dutch export
 - "I saw, I saw, I saw"
 - Arms
 - King Sp.
 - Tourney seeder
 - DOWN
 - Fraudulent plan
 - Famille of
 - Song
 - Seed cover
 - "Junkie"
 - Blood fluid
 - Part of USO
 - Jail
 - Critic of sorts
 - Name in jazz
 - Record of a single event
 - Farm stalk
 - One who hugs
 - Hateful person
 - Laid-off entry
 - A few
 - Moccasin
 - Iran money
 - Farber
 - Name in jazz
 - To
 - (completely)
 - Vetch
 - Acronymic
 - Plan
 - Eng. gallery
 - "Moby Dick" name
 - de gamba
 - King Cole
 - Place for
 - butts
 - Roof beam
 - Soft fabric
 - Freight
 - Shut
 - Barrage
 - Attention-getter
 - Staffer
 - Peru Indian
 - Tidy
 - Sailing girl
 - Young add-on

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Accord reached on Angola truce

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — Negotiators have agreed on a ceasefire between South African and Cuban-Angolan forces in Angola, as well as a mutual pullback of troops, a newspaper reported Saturday.

Delegations from the three countries announced Friday in Geneva that they had agreed on an unspecified "sequence of steps" for peace in southwestern Africa. Details are to be disclosed next week after the negotiators report to their governments.

The Star, South Africa's largest daily, said the steps included a ceasefire.

It said that South African troops were to withdraw from southern Angola, where they have been aiding the UNITA rebel movement, and that Cuban forces were to withdraw to at least 100 kilometres north of Angola's border with Namibia.

Angola-based guerrillas of the South-West African People's Organisation (SWAPO), the main guerrilla group fighting for Namibian independence, also

would be required to pull away from the border, the Star said. The four-day session in Geneva was the fifth round of U.S.-mediated talks since May aimed at resolving the 13-year-old war in Angola and bringing about independence for Namibia.

Another round of talks is scheduled within three weeks, with the exact date and location to be announced.

On Tuesday, South Africa unveiled a proposal calling for an Aug. 10 ceasefire in Angola and independence for Namibia by June 1 if Cuba withdraws its estimated 50,000 troops from Angola by that date.

Angola and Cuba declared the proposals unacceptable and accused Foreign Minister Pik Botha of breaking a confidentiality agreement by announcing the

offer in Pretoria. South Africa proposed a ceasefire in Angola from next Wednesday and independence for Namibia by June next year.

The offer was conditional on the Cuban troops leaving Angola by next June and on the removal of anti-South African bases from Angola.

The quarrel was quickly patched up. Angola and Cuba put forward secret counter-proposals and negotiators got down to some of the hardest bargaining since the four-nation talks began last May. The talks ran into an unscheduled fourth day.

Cuba previously offered to withdraw its troops from Angola over a four-year period. The troops have helped the government fight UNITA, which receives military aid from South Africa and the United States.

A UNITA spokesman in Lisbon, Alcides Sakala, indicated his organisation would not observe a ceasefire unless it is brought into the negotiations.

"As long as UNITA is not a part of the (talks) process, no

change will come about in Angola," he said Friday. The parties in the talks announced in July a joint document in which Cuba, Angola and South Africa accepted a set of 14 "principles" as a framework for a settlement.

The document does not mention the role of UNITA, SWAPO or the African National Congress, the main black group fighting white rule in South Africa. South Africa, in its Tuesday proposals, called for the dismantling of seven guerrilla camps that it said were operated in Angola by the congress.

It was not clear whether the role of these organisations was addressed in Geneva.

South Africa also proposed Tuesday to start withdrawing its estimated 50,000 troops from Namibia Nov. 1. South Africa's mandate over Namibia was terminated by the United Nations in 1966, but in defiance of several U.N. Security Council resolutions, it has retained control over the territory.



Women demonstrators sing a song while displaying placards highlighting attitudes to women in the church outside the Lambeth conference centre in Canterbury.

Runcie says conference a success

CANTERBURY (AP) — Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, leader of the world's 70 million Anglicans, told the closing session of the Lambeth Conference of Bishops Saturday that it had been called an "impossible" conference but had been a success.

"Some thought this conference was impossible. Reason and experience suggested we would fall apart. But keeping our eyes on the Lord we have not sunk," the archbishop said in the text of his speech released in advance.

Runcie did not directly refer to the controversial issue of the likely consecration of the church's first woman bishop, which critics said would break up the three-week conference in Canterbury, wrecking the Anglican commun-

ion of 27 self-governing churches covering 164 countries. Runcie said: "I hope I speak for many others beside myself in testifying that this conference has for me created spiritual energy and fresh vision."

Other issues at the first meeting for 10 years of the Anglican bishops were overshadowed by the question of female bishops. The Anglican churches in the United States, Canada, and New Zealand have said they may consecrate female bishops this year.

Opponents say the consecration will irreparably damage the bonds with Anglican Churches which want to keep the all-male episcopate, causing the Anglican communion to decline into a loose federation, with some churches or dioceses breaking away.

Opponents say traditionalist bishops would feel they could not be in communion with women bishops because bishops are regarded as successors of the Apostles of Jesus Christ who were all men.

But Runcie masterminded a compromise resolution which by a 423-28 vote pledged the churches to respect one another's decisions and instructed him to set up and head a commission to examine relations between the churches when a woman bishop is consecrated.

After three weeks of debate over issues of poverty, injustice, militarism and war, Runcie was optimistic: "Common life — that is what we have experienced here, a common life which lies at the heart of the communion," he said.

Ligachev denounces Western-style reforms

MOSCOW (R) — Kremlin number two Yegor Ligachev, in a clear challenge to the direction perestroika has taken, said Friday that Western forms of economic organisation were totally unacceptable in the Soviet Union.

In a speech to Communist Party officials in the Volga city of Gorky, he condemned a wave of strikes and demonstrations as totally illegal and said Moscow should base its diplomacy on the "class character of international relations."

Ligachev, regarded by reformist intellectuals as a focus for resistance to wide-ranging change, is effectively in charge of day-to-day Kremlin affairs in the apparent absence on holiday of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

One Soviet analyst described his Gorky speech, which came after he had been given lengthy exposure on Moscow television's main evening news programme

for two successive days, as "a clear challenge to the direction perestroika has taken."

"Perestroika" or restructuring is the programme for reform of Soviet society promoted by Gorbachev, who last week urged a total shakeup of industry and agriculture to encourage private and cooperative initiative.

On reforming the Soviet economy, Ligachev said: "It must be understood that copying of Western market models based on private ownership is totally unacceptable for a Socialist system of management."

Television devoted almost half of its Friday evening news programme to 67-year-old Ligachev's speech.

He said Soviet farmers should use all possibilities available to intensify production.

But he made no reference, in an account issued by the TASS news agency or in the television report, to the system of family



Yegor Ligachev

and group units championed by Gorbachev or the call by the Soviet leader for family farmsteads all over the country.

His reference to the Kremlin's foreign policy stance appeared to contradict views also promoted by Gorbachev and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze on the need to avoid clashes over old-style "class positions."

Food prices increase in Burma

BANGKOK (AP) — Authorities begin special sales of basic foodstuffs Saturday to low-income earners in the Burmese capital who have been hit with rising prices, official radio Rangoon said.

Rangoon-based diplomats have linked recent sharp price hikes and some hoarding of basic necessities by merchants to demonstrations and general tension in Burma.

Last week, thousands demonstrated against new president Sein Lwin, who has promised economic reforms but has moved quickly to quash all political dissent.

The broadcast Friday said authorities had arrested 149 people in connection with last week's protests in Rangoon, which led the government to declare martial law in the city.

Leaflets circulating in Rangoon have called for a general nationwide strike Monday.

Seoul takes measures to stop border march

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Police Saturday ordered stringent security measures to block rallies by radical students who want to march to the border for talks with North Korean youths on reuniting the divided Korean peninsula.

The South Korean radicals have called for a cross-country march between Aug. 8-14 and a series of rallies along the way, leading up to talks Aug. 15 in the truce village of Panmunjom in the demilitarised zone (DMZ) between the communist North and capitalist South.

Aug. 15 marks the anniversary of the end of Japanese colonial rule on the Korean peninsula in 1945.

In a statement, national police director Cho Chung-Sup said police are determined to block all rallies and demonstrations, and prevent the students from marching north of Seoul, which is 48

kilometres south of the DMZ. He said the student march and border talks could create social unrest and thereby threaten preparations for the Sept. 17-Oct. 2 Olympics in Seoul.

Cho charged that with the march the students intended to draw public attention to their anti-government, anti-U.S. campaign. He said they should not be pressing for separate student talks when the North and South Korean governments were discussing possible meetings of their legislators aimed at easing tension on the split peninsula.

Riot police would be deployed along the route from Seoul to Panmunjom, Cho said, but he added that police would not interfere in limited, peaceful cross-country marches in provincial areas south of Seoul.

Dissident groups have said they would back rallies in six provincial cities south of the capital.

Bet on eight and hope for best

By Dan Biers
The Associated Press

HONG KONG — The local Chinese belief that eight is an auspicious number has many residents giddy with expectation of good fortune Monday — 8-8-88.

But they'll still have to watch out for ghosts. Aug. 8, 1988, will be marked by weddings aplenty, a special lottery and a variety of ceremonies as local residents hope the good luck associated with the day's wealth of eights rubs off.

Cantonese-speaking Chinese, who make up the vast majority of this British colony's 5.7 million people, have long considered eight to be lucky. In the Cantonese dialect, the word for eight is "faat," which sounds like "faat," the word for prosperity.

That similarity of sound is enough to convince superstitious Chinese of the number's wonders. In February, for example, Hong Kong businessman Law Ting-Pong paid a record \$641,000 for a license plate bearing the single digit "8."

Many Hong Kong couples figure the best way to ensure a life of marital bliss is to have their wedding ceremonies Monday. About 300 couples have registered to marry that day, double the normal number, government spokesman Stephen Chan said.

"In Hong Kong, people say this is the most lucky day," he said. "Everybody likes that day."

The colony's lottery is holding a special drawing Monday with a jackpot sweetened by an additional 3,888,888 Hong Kong dollars (nearly \$500,000) to mark the once-in-a-century date. The final size of the pot will depend on the amount of money bet.

Gambling is a major obsession of local residents, who typically spend 12 million Hong Kong dollars (\$1.5 million) in each semi-weekly lottery drawing. Monday's enhanced jackpot is likely to increase the action.

Meanwhile, a ceremony complete with roast pig

offering will be held 70 floors above the colony Monday to mark the placement of the final beam atop the new bank of China building, construction project director Martin Hadaouy said.

China's official bank originally hoped to move into its new local headquarters Monday, but the building will not be ready for occupancy until next year.

Local astrologer "Rockey" Sung Siu-Kwong, who puts his faith in the traditional Chinese calendar, acknowledged that Monday will be good for marriages and for burying the dead.

"It is a good day, but not a special one," he said. Sung said he would not advise clients to open a business Monday because the day falls during the Chinese month of ghosts, when spirits of the dead prance about the world of the living.

He suggested new businesses open after Aug. 26, when the ghosts return to the underworld "and the order on earth will be restored."

Indeed, Aug. 8, has not proved an auspicious date for everybody. Hong Kong's new light rail transit system to serve the rural new territories near the Chinese border was to begin operating Monday but has been postponed because of a series of mishaps during test runs.

In the most serious accident, a train on a trial run and a van collided at a crossing last month, killing an 8-year-old boy and injuring four other family members in the van.

Sung also said Monday was not good for travel or emigration, one of the hottest activities among jittery Hong Kong professionals seeking to leave the territory before it reverts to communist China in 1997.

Such warnings, however, will not upset the plans of a company publishing a new magazine titled "The Emigrant," which caters to residents seeking to move overseas.

The day the first edition is to hit the newsstands? Monday, of course.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Biaggi resigns after felony conviction

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Congressman Mario Biaggi said Friday he was resigning from the House of Representatives following his conviction on felony charges. The New York Democrat, a member of the House for 20 years, said in a statement issued in Washington that appeals against his convictions "will consume all of my time during these coming months." On Thursday Biaggi was found guilty of racketeering in the scandal involving the defunct defence contractor Westech Corporation five other defendants, including Biaggi's son, were also convicted.

Williams admits trying to kill Jackson

SAINT LOUIS (AP) — A man who wanted to make the United States "a white nation" and who said former presidential candidate Jesse Jackson was "trying to make a fool of us white people" admitted trying to kill the black civil rights activist. Londell Williams, 30, pleaded guilty Thursday to threatening Jackson while the Democrat was under secret service protection and to a charge of possessing an unregistered automatic rifle. The government, quoting from conversations tape-recorded by an informant, said Williams planned to kill Jackson July 4.

Reuters pays computer re-export fine

WASHINGTON (R) — Reuters has agreed to pay a \$400,000 penalty for re-exporting U.S.-origin micro-computer equipment without the required Commerce Department re-export authorisation. The department said Friday. It said that between April 1, 1983 and Dec. 31, 1986, the world news and information service made 488 shipments of the computers, valued at six million, from Britain to other locations, including Eastern European nations. The department said the re-export of such equipment was restricted for reasons of national security, foreign policy or domestic short supply.

Quake rocks India-Burma border

NEW DELHI (R) — A major earthquake rocked a wide region around the Burma-India border Saturday, damaging buildings but bringing no immediate reports of injuries. The early morning tremor, measuring 7.3 on the open-ended Richter scale, lasted up to two minutes in areas close to the epicentre and was felt in Calcutta, 450 kilometres away, and in Dhaka, the Bangladesh capital. A government spokesman in New Delhi said walls of buildings had cracked up to 200 kilometres away, but that he had no reports of casualties.

U.S. to sell artillery to Pakistan

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States said Friday it planned to sell 40 155MM artillery pieces to Pakistan for \$40 million. Sale of Howitzers is expected to become official in 30 days without opposition from Congress. The Pentagon said the weapons, some towed and some self-propelled, would help improve the security of a country which Washington considers an important force for political stability in Southwest Asia.

U.S. chemical spill injures 36

NASHUA, New Hampshire (R) — Some 1,700 people were evacuated from their homes and 36 suffered dizziness, eye and nasal irritation after a plant accident sent a chemical cloud spewing over this area of southern New Hampshire Friday. Three pre-dawn spill sent a first cloud aloft. A second cloud, containing a small amount of residual materials, spread eight hours later, delaying the return of evacuees until early afternoon, police said. Thirty-six people, 18 of them firefighters, were treated for nausea, dizziness, eye and nasal irritation and all but one was released from hospital.

Thai police seize heroin plant

BANGKOK (AP) — Thai authorities have seized what is believed to be the biggest heroin refining complex uncovered in the country in the past decade, a senior police officer said Saturday. About 50 policemen armed with M-16 automatic rifles exchanged fire with guards before seizing the complex Friday near the Burmese border in the jungle hills of the Chiang Dao district of northern province Chiang Mai province, said Major General Kovit Wattana.

COLUMN

Hamlisch named to arts council

WASHINGTON (AP) — Composer and pianist Marvin Hamlisch, a frequent performer at the U.S. White House, has been named by President Ronald Reagan to be a member of the National Council on the Arts. Hamlisch has written numerous scores for movies and Broadway musicals, including "They're Playing our Song" and "A Chorus Line," which won a Pulitzer Prize and a Tony Award. He often is host of a broadcast concert series presented at the White House and is a favourite of Nancy Reagan's. If his nomination is confirmed by the U.S. Senate, Hamlisch would succeed novelist Allen Drury on the arts council. The council is the chief advisory arm of the National Endowment for the Arts.

First children, then lions

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazil, rocked by scandals over baby stealers, has a new problem — cubnappers. The three-month old lion cub Simba was stolen from his cage at a circus in the centre of Rio Monday. Circus manager Tabajara Pimenta said he feared the cub, adopted as the troupe's mascot after his birth there, would be sold. "I knew they were stealing babies in Brazil, but a lion is something else," Pimenta told reporters.

Kenya bans erotic video tapes

NAIROBI (AP) — The government has banned 193 erotic video tapes from public or private viewing, including one adapted from D.H. Lawrence's novel "Lady Chatterley's Lover." Nairobi newspapers reported Saturday. It became illegal to possess or show films after the government Friday printed a list of the banned films in the Kenya Gazette. The films include "Behind the Green Door," "Nude Jello Wrestling Special," and series of films entitled "Caligula," "Cinderella 2000" and "Electric Blue." Government officials also warned that they would make spot checks at homes to inspect private video collections.

'Baker knows a lot of big words'

WASHINGTON (R) — Vice President George Bush suggested Friday he expected to reap a campaign windfall from outgoing Treasury Secretary James Baker heading his campaign because Baker knows a lot of big words. "Look, how many candidates will have a chairman of their campaign that can explain to the American people disintermediation, the snake and special drawing rights?" Bush said at a news conference. "Think about that now." Bush was responding to a question on what made him think he could beat Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis, the Democratic presidential nominee. Bush left the news conference before anyone could ask him to explain the terms himself.

Jealous snake given to zoo

LONDON (R) — A man who gave his jealous pet snake to a zoo after it threatened to break up his love life was told the reptile could have killed him. Mark Benham said his pet, a four-metre long Burmese Python, insisted on lying between him and his girlfriend when they sat together and took to squeezing him tightly around the waist. His girlfriend said he had to choose between them. Curator Neville Wilby, who accepted the snake at his northern English zoo, said Benham was lucky to be alive as the Burmese Python was a natural killer. "They may appear affectionate as pets but they can squeeze the life out of you," he said.

Man bites dog

PIETERMARITZBURG, South Africa (AP) — Four-year-old police dog Rex was bitten on the ear and suffered a serious neck injury when a suspect turned on him during an arrest, police said Tuesday. Constable Philip Rajah had to pull the man off the dog, police said. Rajah and Rex were on patrol in the Natal provincial capital during the weekend when they came across "two suspicious individuals," police said. While Rajah searched one man, Rex chased the other, but got the worst of the fight when he caught up with his quarry. Police said Rex was being treated for his neck injury at a veterinary clinic and the man he arrested was being investigated for a possible charge of malicious injury to state property.

Senate blocks SDI budget bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate refused Friday to increase spending for Star Wars, setting up another potential fight with President Ronald Reagan over the budget for his space-based missile defence programme.

The chamber voted down, 50-44, a move to add \$500 million to the Star Wars budget for the fiscal year starting Oct. 1.

The decision came as the Senate began a second attempt to write a defence department budget bill.

Reagan vetoed the first defence department measure approved by the Democratic-controlled Congress, partly because the bill cut too deeply into Reagan's request for the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), as Star Wars is formally known.

Reagan wanted \$4.8 billion for SDI next year, compared with the current \$3.9 billion figure. The vetoed bill would have authorised \$4.0 billion.

Moscow, Kabul accuse Pakistan of violations

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze met Afghan President Najibullah in Kabul Friday, and the two accused Pakistan of violating the Afghanistan peace agreement, the official news agency TASS reported.

In Islamabad, Radio Kabul said the visit ended 24 hours after it began, giving scant details.

Shevardnadze made the unexpected trip to the Afghan capital Thursday, one day after he accused Pakistan of terrorism during a meeting in Moscow with Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan. Pakistan backs insurgents, Mujahedeen, who are fighting Afghanistan's pro-Soviet government.

During the meeting with Najib, "much attention was given to Pakistan's actions which systematically and seriously violated its pledges to prevent interference and which actually connived at international terrorism against Afghanistan," TASS said.

In Islamabad, Pakistan. Western diplomats told reporters earlier that repeated rocket barrages on the Afghan capital reportedly have put an increasing burden on Soviet troops to maintain Kabul's defences. Afghan guerrillas are being blamed for the rocket attacks.

TASS said Shevardnadze told Najibullah about unspecified steps it was taking to stop violations of the April 14 Geneva agreement to end the Afghan conflict.

But Soviet officials say the withdrawal is proceeding according to schedule. A senior Western diplomat in Moscow said Friday that it was unclear why Shevardnadze went to Kabul, but that there was no indication the Soviets were planning to slow the pace of withdrawal because of Pakistani aid to the rebels, or the insurgents' increasing attacks on government forces.